

# Resolutions and Decisions

adopted by the General Assembly  
during its seventy-third session

Volume I

Resolutions

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## **NOTE**

The resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly are identified as follows:

### **Regular sessions**

Until the thirtieth regular session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed by a roman numeral in parentheses indicating the session (for example: resolution 3363 (XXX)). When several resolutions were adopted under the same number, each of them was identified by a capital letter placed between the two numerals (for example: resolution 3367 A (XXX), resolutions 3411 A and B (XXX), resolutions 3419 A to D (XXX)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the thirty-first session, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of General Assembly documents, resolutions and decisions have been identified by an arabic numeral, indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution 31/1, decision 31/301). When several resolutions or decisions were adopted under the same number, each of them has been identified by a capital letter placed after the two numerals (for example: resolution 31/16 A, resolutions 31/6 A and B, decisions 31/406 A to E).

### **Special sessions**

Until the seventh special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letter “S” and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 3362 (S-VII)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the eighth special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letter “S” and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution S-8/1, decision S-8/11).

### **Emergency special sessions**

Until the fifth emergency special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letters “ES” and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 2252 (ES-V)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the sixth emergency special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letters “ES” and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution ES-6/1, decision ES-6/11).

In each of the series described above, the numbering follows the order of adoption.

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The present volume contains the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly from 18 September to 22 December 2018, as well as the information requested by the Assembly in section C, paragraph 3, of its resolution 54/248 of 23 December 1999. Decisions adopted by the Assembly during this period appear in volume II. Resolutions and decisions adopted subsequently during the seventy-third session will be published in volume III.

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## RESOLUTION 73/1

Adopted at the 4th plenary meeting, on 24 September 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.1](#), submitted by the President of the General Assembly

### 73/1. Political declaration adopted at the Nelson Mandela Peace Summit

*The General Assembly*

*Adopts the following political declaration:*

#### Political declaration adopted at the Nelson Mandela Peace Summit

1. We, Heads of State and Government and representatives of States and Governments, are meeting at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 24 September 2018, at the Nelson Mandela Peace Summit to reflect on global peace, in honour of the centenary of the birth of Nelson Mandela.
2. We salute his qualities of humility, forgiveness and compassion, his values and his dedication to the service of humanity, as a humanitarian, in the fields of conflict resolution, disarmament, race relations, the promotion and protection of human rights, reconciliation, gender equality, the rights of children and people in vulnerable situations, as well as the upliftment of poor and underdeveloped communities. We acknowledge his contribution to the struggle for democracy internationally and the promotion of a culture of peace throughout the world.
3. We commit to redouble our efforts to build a just, peaceful, prosperous, inclusive and fair world, and to revive the values for which Nelson Mandela stood by placing human dignity at the centre of our actions. We commit to demonstrating mutual respect, tolerance, understanding and reconciliation in our relations.
4. We recognize that the world has changed significantly since the founding of the United Nations, and acknowledge that global peace eludes us to this day. We, the leaders of the world today, more than ever assume a special responsibility for our words and actions in shaping a world free of fear and want. Conflict is born out of the minds of humanity, and we are the people who can find sustainable solutions to bring a lasting peace, today and for future generations. We recognize the importance of our addressing threats to global peace and security, including challenges to the primacy of multilateralism.
5. We reaffirm the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>1</sup> that serve as our common and universal vision. As we observe the seventieth anniversary of the Declaration, we recall its foundational principle that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights, and are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.
6. We also reaffirm our commitment to uphold the sovereign equality of all States, respect for their territorial integrity and political independence and the duty of Member States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations, and to uphold the resolution of disputes by peaceful means and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, the right to self-determination of peoples which remain under colonial domination or foreign occupation, non-interference in the internal affairs of States, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for the equal rights of all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion, international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and the fulfilment in good faith of the obligations assumed in accordance with the Charter.
7. We recognize that peace and security, development and human rights are the pillars of the United Nations system and the foundations for collective security and well-being, and recognize that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing.
8. We reaffirm the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>2</sup> and recognize that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement

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<sup>1</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 70/1.

## **I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee**

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for sustainable development. We remain committed to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner. Sustainable development cannot be realized without peace and security, and peace and security will be at risk without sustainable development. We reaffirm our pledge that no one will be left behind.

9. We recognize that respect for the inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights, as well as the fundamental freedoms, of all members of the human family is the foundation of inclusivity, justice and peace in the world. We declare that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance represent the very opposite of the noble purposes of the United Nations. We recognize that tolerance of cultural, ethnic, racial and religious diversity is essential for lasting peace, understanding and friendship among peoples, nations, civilizations, cultures and individuals. We all constitute one human family. We therefore commit to not let our differences limit our common purpose and universal vision, to build on what unites us and to explore creative ways to bridge what divides us.

10. We resolve to move beyond words in the promotion of peaceful, just, inclusive and non-discriminatory societies, stressing the importance of the equal participation and full involvement of women and the meaningful participation of youth in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and to redouble our efforts to ensure that women, youth and children are free from all forms of violence, fear, discrimination and abuse.

11. We recognize the contribution of women to the advancement of societies and their contribution to the prevention and resolution of conflicts at different levels. We are committed to the promotion and protection of, and respect for, the human rights of all women and girls, working to ensure full gender equality and the elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls, as well as empowering them to realize their full potential.

12. We resolve to ensure the protection, rights and well-being of children, especially in armed conflict, so they can realize their dreams and grow up without fear, discrimination and exclusion. Protecting children contributes to breaking the cycle of violence and sows the seeds for future peace.

13. We affirm the responsibility of each individual State to protect its population from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, and recognize the need to mobilize the collective wisdom, capabilities and political will of the international community to encourage and help States to exercise this responsibility at their request. We need to strengthen our capacities to prevent, contain or end conflicts in accordance with the Charter and international law.

14. We acknowledge the incontrovertible truth that conflict is in all ways more costly than preventive diplomacy. No effort should be spared to settle conflicts through peaceful means. We therefore express our full support for the work of the United Nations and strive to support peace processes, conflict prevention and resolution efforts, peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction and development.

15. We encourage parties to armed conflict to take immediate, concrete measures to end cycles of conflict and to prevent relapse. We recognize the role of multiple actors in armed conflict, including non-State actors, and urge all parties to comply with their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law. We declare our good offices available to those who need them.

16. We recognize that there is no single template for peace, but there is a long and varied history of the successful and unsuccessful resolution of conflicts that can serve as best practices for the negotiated settlement and peaceful resolution of conflicts. We commit to making available our best practice to those who seek different models for peace. Dialogue is key, and courage is needed to take the first steps to build trust and gain momentum. We therefore declare our full support to good-faith negotiations.

17. In this regard, we note that the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations have a multitude of tools and mechanisms to support peace, and express our desire to continue to review the effectiveness of the tools at our disposal to address the armed conflicts at hand. We commit to ensuring that lines of communication are maintained between parties during conflict resolution efforts to prevent unnecessary escalation and loss of trust. We commit to finding credible interlocutors to engage with all the parties to an armed conflict to ensure a just and lasting peace.

18. We acknowledge that civil society can play an important role in preventing conflicts, contributing to peacebuilding and advancing efforts to sustain peace. We also recognize that, depending on the nature of the conflict, a wide range of good offices exist that can play an important role across the peace continuum, including current and former Heads of State and Government, groups such as the Elders, the African Union Panel of the Wise, traditional

leaders, religious leaders, cultural leaders, community leaders, business leaders, women's and youth representatives, academics, sports personalities and celebrities. Sports and the arts in particular have the power to change perceptions, prejudices and behaviours, as well as to inspire people, break down racial and political barriers, combat discrimination and defuse conflict.

19. We emphasize the importance of a comprehensive approach to sustaining peace, in particular by preventing conflict and addressing its root causes, strengthening the rule of law at the international and national levels and promoting sustained and sustainable economic growth, poverty eradication, social development, sustainable development, national reconciliation and unity, including through inclusive dialogue and mediation, access to justice and transitional justice, accountability, good governance, democracy, accountable institutions, gender equality, and respect for, and protection of, human rights and fundamental freedoms. We reaffirm the importance of national ownership and leadership in peacebuilding, whereby the responsibility for sustaining peace is broadly shared by the Government and all other national stakeholders.

20. It is clear that lasting peace is not realized just by the absence of armed conflict, but is achieved through a continuing positive, dynamic, inclusive and participatory process of dialogue and engagement that resolves all outstanding issues in a spirit of mutual respect and understanding, cooperation and long-term vision. We recognize that, to prevent the recurrence of crises and ensure social cohesion, ownership and inclusiveness, ending impunity and ensuring accountability, including through international justice mechanisms, transitional justice and reconciliation, are key to post-conflict nation-building and development.

21. We recognize that peacebuilding and sustaining peace require significant post-conflict support for moving towards recovery, reconstruction and development. The cycle of conflict should not be allowed to continue, including through the unintended consequences of the premature withdrawal of support and international attention. Sustainable peace requires sustained attention, commitment and investment.

22. We welcome the example set by South Africa in unilaterally dismantling its nuclear-weapon programme and recall the firm plea made by Nelson Mandela in favour of the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

23. Our common humanity demands that we make the impossible possible. We seek the conversion of hearts and minds that can make a difference for future generations. We therefore:

(a) Recognize the period from 2019 to 2028 as the Nelson Mandela Decade of Peace and call upon all Member States to redouble their efforts to pursue international peace and security, development and human rights in the Decade;<sup>3</sup>

(b) Welcome the establishment of the High-level Advisory Board on Mediation and encourage its further efforts and contribution to the maintenance of international peace and security and the prevention of armed conflicts, including through the use of its good offices;

(c) Reaffirm the aims of the United Nations Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela Prize and the United Nations Prize in the Field of Human Rights, and encourage the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General to work together to raise awareness of these prizes in order to strengthen the recognition and celebration by the United Nations of its values, purposes and principles, which reflect the values for which Nelson Mandela stood;

(d) Recommend, in the spirit of Nelson Mandela's legacy and recognizing the intergenerational pledge of dignity and security which underpins the Charter, that the United Nations explore means to systematically consider the needs of present and future generations, including through intergenerational dialogue, in its decision-making processes.

24. As we rise from the General Assembly today, we collectively hold ourselves accountable to the values and principles of the present declaration, to strive for a just, peaceful, prosperous, democratic, fair, equitable and inclusive world. We call upon our people to celebrate the richness of our diversity and the collective creativity and wisdom of our elders, and the well-being and survival of Mother Earth, and call upon our youth, artists, sports personalities, musicians and poets to breathe new life into the values and principles of the United Nations.

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<sup>3</sup> Member States are encouraged to continue activities in support of the Nelson Mandela Decade of Peace through voluntary contributions.

## RESOLUTION 73/2

Adopted at the 18th plenary meeting, on 10 October 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.2](#), submitted by the President of the General Assembly

### **73/2. Political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases**

*The General Assembly*

*Adopts* the following political declaration approved by the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases on 27 September 2018:

#### **Political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases**

##### **Time to deliver: accelerating our response to address non-communicable diseases for the health and well-being of present and future generations**

We, Heads of State and Government and representatives of States and Governments, assembled at the United Nations on 27 September 2018 to undertake a comprehensive review of the challenges and opportunities in the implementation of our existing commitments for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases and the promotion of mental health, which constitute a major challenge for the health and well-being of our peoples and for sustainable development,

1. Strongly reaffirm our political commitment to accelerate the implementation of the 2011 political declaration and the 2014 outcome document of the previous high-level meetings of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,<sup>4</sup> which continue to inspire our action and catalyse our efforts, and, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>5</sup> reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases by 2030 through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being, by addressing their risk factors and the determinants of health;
2. Reaffirm General Assembly resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;<sup>6</sup>
3. Reaffirm the right of every human being, without distinction of any kind, to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and recognize that health is a precondition for and an outcome and indicator of all three dimensions of sustainable development;
4. Recognize that action to realize the commitments made for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases is inadequate and that the level of progress and investment to date is insufficient to meet target 3.4 of the Sustainable Development Goals and that the world has yet to fulfil its promise of implementing, at all levels, measures to reduce the risk of premature death and disability from non-communicable diseases;
5. Acknowledge the progress achieved by some countries in the implementation of their commitments made in 2011 and 2014 for the prevention and control of four major non-communicable diseases, namely, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer and chronic respiratory diseases, by reducing their main common risk factors, namely, tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, unhealthy diets and physical inactivity, and by addressing the underlying social, economic and environmental determinants of non-communicable diseases and the impact of economic, commercial and market factors, as well as by improving disease management to reduce morbidity, disability and mortality;
6. Recognize that many countries still face significant challenges in the implementation of their commitments, and remain deeply concerned that the burden of non-communicable diseases continues to rise disproportionately in

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<sup>4</sup> Resolution [66/2](#), annex, and resolution [68/300](#).

<sup>5</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>6</sup> Resolution [69/313](#), annex.

## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

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developing countries and that every year 15 million people between the ages of 30 and 69 die from non-communicable diseases and that 86 per cent of these premature deaths occur in developing countries;

7. Express grave concern that the huge human and economic cost of non-communicable diseases contributes to poverty and inequities and threatens the health of peoples and the development of countries, costing developing countries over the next 15 years more than 7 trillion United States dollars;

8. Welcome the fact that the General Assembly proclaimed 2016–2025 as the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition and encourage its implementation;

9. Welcome the convening of the World Health Organization Global Conference on Non-communicable Diseases, hosted by the Governments of Finland, the Russian Federation and Uruguay and the World Health Organization, from 18 to 20 October 2017 in Montevideo, and its outcome document, entitled “Montevideo road map 2018–2030 on non-communicable diseases as a sustainable development priority”, as a contribution to the preparatory process leading to the third high-level meeting and recall World Health Assembly resolution 71.2 of 26 May 2018;<sup>7</sup>

10. Welcome the report of the World Health Organization Independent High-level Commission on Non-communicable Diseases entitled “Time to deliver”, and take note of its recommendations;

11. Recognize that mental disorders and other mental health conditions, as well as neurological disorders, contribute to the global burden of non-communicable diseases and that people living with mental disorders and other mental health conditions may face stigma and discrimination, being more susceptible to having their human rights violated and abused, and also have an increased risk of other non-communicable diseases and therefore higher rates of morbidity and mortality, and that depression alone affects 300 million people globally and is the leading cause of disability worldwide;

12. Acknowledge the significant impact of non-communicable diseases on children, which is of major concern, in particular the rising levels of obesity among them, recognizing that children who are given the opportunity to grow and develop in a healthy environment that is responsive to their needs, including breastfeeding, and that, at a young age, fosters and encourages healthy behaviour and lifestyles, including healthy dietary choices and regular physical activity, and promotes the maintenance of healthy weight, can greatly reduce the risk of non-communicable diseases in adulthood;

13. Acknowledge the impact of non-communicable diseases on older persons, which is of particular concern, given the growing proportion of older persons and recognizing that they have an increased risk of multiple non-communicable diseases, which constitutes a major challenge for health systems;

14. Acknowledge that mainstreaming a gender perspective into the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases is crucial to understanding and addressing the health risks and needs of women and men of all ages, giving particular attention to the impact of non-communicable diseases on women in all settings;

15. Reaffirm the primary role and responsibility of governments at all levels in responding to the challenge of non-communicable diseases by developing adequate national multisectoral responses for their prevention and control, and promoting and protecting the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, and underscore the importance of pursuing whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches, as well as health-in-all-policies approaches, equity-based approaches and life-course approaches;

16. Acknowledge that other stakeholders also share responsibility and can contribute in creating an environment conducive to preventing and controlling non-communicable diseases, and recognize the need to bring together civil society and the private sector to mobilize all their available resources, as appropriate, for the implementation of national responses for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;

We therefore commit to scale up our efforts and further implement the following actions:

17. Strengthen our commitment, as Heads of State and Government, to provide strategic leadership for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases by promoting greater policy coherence and coordination through whole-of-government and health-in-all-policies approaches and by engaging stakeholders in an appropriate, coordinated, comprehensive and integrated, bold whole-of-society action and response;

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<sup>7</sup> See World Health Organization, document WHA71/2018/REC/1.

18. Scale up the implementation of the commitments made in 2011 and 2014 for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases through ambitious multisectoral national responses and thereby contribute to the overall implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including by integrating, across the life course, action on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases and the promotion of mental health and well-being;
19. Implement, according to own-country-led prioritization, a set of cost-effective, affordable and evidence-based interventions and good practices, including those recommended by the World Health Organization, for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, that can be scaled up across populations to promote health, treat people with non-communicable diseases and protect those at risk of developing them, with a particular emphasis on the needs of those in vulnerable situations;
20. Scale up the implementation of the commitments made in 2011 and 2014 to reduce tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, unhealthy diets and physical inactivity, taking into account, as appropriate, World Health Organization-recommended interventions for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,<sup>8</sup> in line with national priorities and targets;
21. Promote and implement policy, legislative and regulatory measures, including fiscal measures as appropriate, aiming at minimizing the impact of the main risk factors for non-communicable diseases, and promote healthy diets and lifestyles;
22. Accelerate the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control<sup>9</sup> by its States parties, while continuing to implement tobacco control measures without any tobacco industry interference and to encourage other countries to consider becoming parties to the Convention;
23. Implement cost-effective and evidence-based interventions to halt the rise of overweight and obesity, in particular childhood obesity, taking into account World Health Organization recommendations and national priorities;
24. Develop, as appropriate, a national investment case on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases to raise awareness about the national public health burden caused by non-communicable diseases, health inequities, the relationship between non-communicable diseases, poverty and social and economic development, the number of lives that could be saved and the return on investment;
25. Establish or strengthen national multi-stakeholder dialogue mechanisms, as appropriate, for the implementation of the national multisectoral action plans for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases in order to attain the national targets;
26. Share information with global and regional partners on experiences, including successes and challenges related to the implementation of national policies and programmes to prevent and control non-communicable diseases and promote health, in order to further strengthen the global knowledge and expand the evidence base on best practices and lessons learned, including on traditional medicines, to promote informed action;
27. Invest in research, including in public health measures, on health promotion and disease prevention and the health sector's role therein, and in new treatment options for prevention and cost-effective therapies;
28. Take the necessary measures to recognize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health across the life course, in respecting human rights obligations and addressing the specific health needs of children, women, older persons, persons with disabilities and others who are more vulnerable to non-communicable diseases;
29. Take measures to better prepare the health systems to respond to the needs of the rapidly ageing population, including the need for preventive, curative, palliative and specialized care for older persons, taking into account the disproportionate burden of non-communicable diseases on older persons, and that population ageing is a contributing factor in the rising incidence and prevalence of non-communicable diseases;

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<sup>8</sup> Such as the World Health Organization Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013–2020, the comprehensive mental health action plan 2013–2020, the global strategy and action plan on ageing and health 2016–2020, the global action plan on physical activity 2018–2030, the Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health and the Global Strategy to Reduce the Harmful Use of Alcohol, as well as the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

<sup>9</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2302, No. 41032.



30. Scale up efforts to use information and communications technologies, including e-health and m-health and other innovative solutions, through, inter alia, the promotion of public-private partnership to accelerate ambitious action towards the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;
31. Increase global awareness, action and international cooperation on environmental risk factors, to address the high number of premature deaths from non-communicable diseases attributed to human exposure to indoor and outdoor air pollution, underscoring the particular importance of cross-sectoral cooperation in addressing these public health risks;
32. Promote healthy communities by addressing the impact of environmental determinants on non-communicable diseases, including air, water and soil pollution, exposure to chemicals, climate change and extreme weather events, as well as the ways in which cities and human settlements are planned and developed, including sustainable transportation and urban safety, to promote physical activity, social integration and connectivity;
33. Encourage the adoption of holistic approaches to health and well-being through regular physical activity, including sports, recreation and yoga, to prevent and control non-communicable diseases and promote healthy lifestyles, including through physical education;
34. Empower the individual to make informed choices by providing an enabling environment, strengthening health literacy through education, and implementing population-wide and targeted mass and social media campaigns that educate the public about the harms of smoking and/or tobacco use and second-hand smoke, the harmful use of alcohol and the excessive intake of fats, in particular saturated fats and trans-fats, sugars and salt, promote the intake of fruits and vegetables, as well as healthy and balanced sustainable diets, and reduce sedentary behaviour;
35. Strengthen health systems and reorient them towards the achievement of universal health coverage and improvement of health outcomes, and high-quality, integrated and people-centred primary and specialized health services for the prevention, screening and control of non-communicable diseases and related mental health disorders and other mental health conditions throughout the life cycle, including access to safe, affordable, effective and quality essential diagnostics, medicines, vaccines and technologies, and palliative care, and understandable and high-quality, patient-friendly information on their use, as well as health management information systems and an adequate and well-trained and equipped health workforce;
36. Promote increased access to affordable, safe, effective and quality medicines and diagnostics and other technologies, reaffirming the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement), as amended, and also reaffirming the 2001 Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which recognizes that intellectual property rights should be interpreted and implemented in a manner supportive of the right of Member States to protect public health and, in particular, to promote access to medicines for all, and notes the need for appropriate incentives in the development of new health products;
37. Implement measures to improve mental health and well-being, including by developing comprehensive services and treatment for people living with mental disorders and other mental health conditions and integrating them into national responses for non-communicable diseases, and addressing their social determinants and other health needs, fully respecting their human rights;
38. Promote access to affordable diagnostics, screening, treatment and care, as well as vaccines that lower the risk of cancer, as part of the comprehensive approach to its prevention and control, including cervical and breast cancers;
39. Integrate, as appropriate, responses to non-communicable diseases and communicable diseases, such as HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis, especially in countries with the highest prevalence rates, taking into account their linkages;
40. Strengthen the design and implementation of policies, including for resilient health systems and health services and infrastructure to treat people living with non-communicable diseases and prevent and control their risk factors in humanitarian emergencies, including before, during and after natural disasters, with a particular focus on countries most vulnerable to the impact of climate change and extreme weather events;
41. Pursue all necessary efforts to mobilize the full, active and responsible engagement and participation of all relevant stakeholders for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;
42. Promote meaningful civil society engagement to encourage Governments to develop ambitious national multisectoral responses for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, and to contribute to their implementation, forge multi-stakeholder partnerships and alliances that mobilize and share knowledge, assess progress, provide services and amplify the voices of and raise awareness about people living with and affected by non-communicable diseases;

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43. Engage with the private sector, taking into account national health priorities and objectives for its meaningful and effective contribution to the implementation of national responses to non-communicable diseases in order to reach Sustainable Development Goal target 3.4 on non-communicable diseases, while giving due regard to managing conflicts of interest;
44. Invite the private sector to strengthen its commitment and contribution to the implementation of national responses to prevent, control and treat non-communicable diseases to reach health and development objectives by:
- (a) Promoting and creating safe and healthy working environments, by implementing occupational health measures, including by establishing tobacco-free workplaces, and through good corporate practices, workplace wellness programmes and health insurance plans, as appropriate;
  - (b) Encouraging economic operators in the area of alcohol production and trade, as appropriate, to contribute to reducing harmful use of alcohol in their core areas, taking into account national religious and cultural contexts;
  - (c) Taking concrete steps, where relevant, towards eliminating the marketing, advertising and sale of alcoholic products to minors;
  - (d) Further producing and promoting food products consistent with a healthy diet, making further efforts to reformulate them in order to provide healthy and nutritious options, reducing the excessive use of salt, sugars and fats, in particular saturated fats and trans-fats, as well as providing appropriate content information of those nutrients, bearing in mind international guidelines on nutrition labelling;
  - (e) Committing to further reduce the exposure of children to and impact on them of the marketing of foods and beverages high in fats, in particular saturated fats and trans-fats, sugars or salt, consistent with national legislation, where applicable;
  - (f) Contributing to further improving access to and the affordability of safe, effective and quality medicines and technologies in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;
45. Establish or strengthen transparent national accountability mechanisms for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, taking into account government efforts in developing, implementing and monitoring national responses for addressing non-communicable diseases and existing global accountability mechanisms;
46. Commit to mobilize and allocate adequate, predictable and sustained resources for national responses to prevent and control non-communicable diseases and to promote mental health and well-being, through domestic, bilateral and multilateral channels, including international cooperation and official development assistance, and continue exploring voluntary innovative financing mechanisms and partnerships, including with the private sector, to advance action at all levels;
47. Call upon the World Health Organization to continue to exercise its leadership, as the directing and coordinating authority on international health, in order to contribute to Member States' efforts to prevent and control non-communicable diseases by continuing and strengthening its normative and standard-setting work and its capacity to develop and provide technical cooperation, assistance and policy advice to Member States, as well as to enhance its multi-stakeholder engagement and dialogue, including through the World Health Organization global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases and the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases;
48. Also call upon the World Health Organization to continue to promote and monitor enhanced global action to prevent and control non-communicable diseases by coordinating work with other United Nations agencies, development banks and other regional and international organizations, including by exploring new financing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and/or accountability mechanisms;
49. To implement these actions, we commit to act in unity to create a just and prosperous world where all people can exercise their rights and have equal opportunities to live healthy lives in a world free of the avoidable burden of non-communicable diseases;
50. We request the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, and in collaboration with the World Health Organization and relevant funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, to submit to the General Assembly, by the end of 2024, for consideration by Member States, a report on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present political declaration, in preparation for a high-level meeting on a comprehensive review, in 2025, of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases and the promotion of mental health and well-being.

### RESOLUTION 73/3

Adopted at the 18th plenary meeting, on 10 October 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.4](#), submitted by the President of the General Assembly

#### **73/3. Political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the fight against tuberculosis**

*The General Assembly*

*Adopts* the following political declaration approved by the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the fight against tuberculosis on 26 September 2018:

#### **Political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the fight against tuberculosis**

##### **United to end tuberculosis: an urgent global response to a global epidemic**

We, Heads of State and Government and representatives of States and Governments, assembled at the United Nations in New York on 26 September 2018, with a dedicated focus for the first time on the global tuberculosis epidemic, reaffirm our commitment to ending the tuberculosis epidemic globally by 2030 in line with the Sustainable Development Goals target, commit to ending the epidemic in all countries, and pledge to provide leadership and to work together to accelerate our national and global collective actions, investments and innovations urgently to fight this preventable and treatable disease, affirming that tuberculosis, including its drug-resistant forms, is a critical challenge and the leading cause of death from infectious disease, the most common form of antimicrobial resistance globally and the leading cause of death of people living with HIV, and that poverty, gender inequality, vulnerability, discrimination and marginalization exacerbate the risks of contracting tuberculosis and its devastating impacts, including stigma and discrimination at all ages, such that the disease requires a comprehensive response, including towards achieving universal health coverage, and one that addresses the social and economic determinants of the epidemic and that protects and fulfils the human rights and dignity of all people, and we therefore:

1. Reaffirm the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>10</sup> including the resolve to end the tuberculosis epidemic by 2030, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;<sup>11</sup>

2. Further reaffirm the 2016 political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance, as reflected in its resolution [71/3](#) of 5 October 2016, the 2016 political declaration on HIV and AIDS, adopted in its resolution [70/266](#) of 8 June 2016, the 2014 outcome document of the high-level meeting of the Assembly on the comprehensive review and assessment of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, adopted in its resolution [68/300](#) of 10 July 2014, and its resolution [72/139](#) of 12 December 2017, in which the Assembly decided to hold a high-level meeting on universal health coverage in 2019, and take note of World Health Assembly resolution 69.2 of 28 May 2016, entitled “Committing to implementation of the Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents’ Health”,<sup>12</sup> and Human Rights Council resolution [33/11](#) of 29 September 2016 on preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age as a human rights concern,<sup>13</sup> and further reaffirm the World Health Organization End TB Strategy, as approved in World Health Assembly resolution 67.1 of 21 May 2014,<sup>14</sup> and its associated targets;

3. Acknowledge that the Millennium Development Goals<sup>15</sup> and associated strategies, plans and programmes for the prevention and care of tuberculosis helped to reverse the trend of the tuberculosis epidemic and, between 2000

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<sup>10</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>11</sup> Resolution [69/313](#), annex.

<sup>12</sup> See World Health Organization, document WHA69/2016/REC/1.

<sup>13</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum ([A/71/53/Add.1](#) and [A/71/53/Add.1/Corr.1](#)), chap. II.

<sup>14</sup> See World Health Organization, document WHA67/2014/REC/1.

<sup>15</sup> See resolution [55/2](#).

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and 2016, reduced tuberculosis mortality by 37 per cent, which saved 53 million lives, and that investment in care and the prevention of tuberculosis brings some of the largest gains in terms of lives saved and economic benefits from development investments;

4. Welcome the convening of the first World Health Organization Global Ministerial Conference on Ending Tuberculosis in the Sustainable Development Era: A Multisectoral Response, held in Moscow on 16 and 17 November 2017, and take note with appreciation of its Moscow Declaration to End TB, with its commitments and calls for urgent action, notably on advancing the response to tuberculosis within the 2030 Agenda, ensuring sufficient and sustainable financing, pursuing science, research and innovation and developing a multisectoral accountability framework, which contributed to this meeting;

5. Recognize other recent high-level commitments and calls for action against tuberculosis, including its multidrug-resistant and zoonotic forms, made by global, regional and subregional bodies and meetings, including the Delhi End TB Summit, held from 12 to 17 March 2018;

6. Recognize that, while the World Health Organization declared tuberculosis a global emergency 25 years ago, it is still among the top 10 causes of death worldwide, and that it is a critical challenge in all regions and countries and disproportionately affects developing countries, where 99 per cent of tuberculosis-associated deaths occur, and furthermore recognize that the epidemic is exacerbated by the rise of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis and the heavy burden of tuberculosis, HIV and AIDS, and other co-morbidities such as diabetes, that one quarter of the world's people are infected with the bacterium that causes the disease, and that millions of people ill with tuberculosis are missing out on quality care each year, including on access to affordable diagnostic tests and treatment, especially in developing countries;

7. Express serious concern that, despite these commitments, tuberculosis remains a cause of an enormous burden of illness, suffering and death, and that stigma and discrimination because of the disease bring enormous costs for individuals affected by tuberculosis and their families, and acknowledge that an adequate multisectoral and intersectoral engagement in the fight against the disease is needed, and that the world needs to refocus efforts on actions and investments, including in research, needed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals target of ending the tuberculosis epidemic by 2030;

8. Recognize that tuberculosis affects populations inequitably and contributes to the cycle of ill health and poverty, that malnutrition and inadequate living conditions contribute to the spread of tuberculosis and its impact upon the community, and that tuberculosis is fundamentally linked to a majority of the leading development challenges addressed by the 2030 Agenda;

9. Further recognize that tuberculosis is both preventable and curable, yet 40 per cent of people newly affected by tuberculosis are missed by public health reporting systems, and millions do not receive quality care each year, and that tuberculosis can only be eliminated through prevention efforts and access to quality diagnosis, treatment and care, including access to affordable diagnostic tools and drug treatment, effective people-centred and community-based models of care supported by integrated care services, as well as financing innovations, and additional investments in research and development and in the affordable delivery of tuberculosis programmes, especially in developing countries, and recognize that countries that are transitioning from donor to domestic funding face new challenges that may have a negative impact on earlier gains in the fight against tuberculosis;

10. Recognize that, even though tuberculosis is the leading global cause of death of people living with HIV, in 2016 less than half of the estimated number of cases of tuberculosis in people living with HIV were found and notified, and less than 60 per cent of known tuberculosis patients were tested for HIV, precluding treatment and resulting in preventable deaths;

11. Recognize that multidrug-resistant tuberculosis is estimated to account for one third of deaths due to antimicrobial resistance globally, and that many of the Sustainable Development Goals may not be attainable if we fail to address antimicrobial resistance, that the grave risks to individual and public health posed by multidrug-resistant tuberculosis are cause for alarm, that only 25 per cent of the estimated number of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis cases were diagnosed and notified in 2016, such that the vast majority of those in need still lack access to high-quality prevention, treatment and care services and that inadequate investment in tuberculosis case detection is a key obstacle to meeting tuberculosis treatment goals, and furthermore acknowledge that the response to multidrug-resistant and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis to date has been insufficient, despite the introduction of new rapid diagnostic tests, efforts to scale up disease management and international financing, such as from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS,

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Tuberculosis and Malaria, including to help support drug supply, yet globally just over 50 per cent of patients enrolled in treatment for multidrug-resistant tuberculosis are successfully treated;

12. Acknowledge that multidrug-resistant tuberculosis is a key component of the global challenge of antimicrobial resistance, and express grave concern that the scope and scale of multidrug-resistant and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis illness and mortality place an additional burden on health and community systems, especially in low- and middle-income countries, and thereby pose a critical challenge that could reverse the progress made against the disease, against antimicrobial resistance and towards the Sustainable Development Goals, and that there is a profound gap in access to quality diagnosis, treatment and care for those affected, and there is still a low treatment success rate for those who are treated, and therefore acknowledge that it is necessary to ensure global collaboration, sustainable and sufficient political buy-in and financial investment from all sources, a strong public health response, including strong and resilient health systems, and additional investment in research, development and innovation, recognizing that innovation has the potential to benefit society at large;

13. Note with concern that the protection and promotion of the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, as well as access for millions of people to tuberculosis health services and to quality, safe, efficacious and affordable tuberculosis diagnostics and treatment, remains challenging, especially in developing countries;

14. Recognize the profound socioeconomic challenges and financial hardships faced by people affected by tuberculosis, including in obtaining an early diagnosis, in being subject to extremely long treatment regimens, with drugs that could involve severe side effects, as well as in securing integrated support, including from the community, and therefore affirm that all these people require integrated, people-centred prevention, diagnosis, treatment, management of side effects, and care, as well as psychosocial, nutritional and socioeconomic support for successful treatment, including to reduce stigma and discrimination;

15. Recognize the role played by the Stop TB Partnership/Global Drug Facility, which has, since its creation in 2001, increased access to high-quality and affordable tuberculosis treatment and diagnostics for populations in need and is open as an option to be considered for use by all nations, and therefore encourage all nations to use the Stop TB Partnership/Global Drug Facility;

16. Recognize the potential of digital technologies to be used in a variety of ways for tuberculosis prevention, treatment and care, including to support health systems by improving the accessibility, quality and affordability of health services and to help with adherence, surveillance, logistics management and e-learning;

17. Recognize the enormous, often catastrophic, economic and social impacts and burden of tuberculosis for people affected by the disease, their households, and affected communities, and that the risk and impact of tuberculosis can vary depending on demographic, social, economic and environmental circumstances, and, in order to make the elimination of tuberculosis possible, prioritizing, as appropriate, notably through the involvement of communities and civil society and in a non-discriminatory manner, high-risk groups and other people who are vulnerable or in vulnerable situations, such as women and children, indigenous peoples, health-care workers, migrants, refugees, internally displaced people, people living in situations of complex emergencies, prisoners, people living with HIV, people who use drugs, in particular those who inject drugs, miners and others exposed to silica, the urban and rural poor, underserved populations, undernourished people, individuals who face food insecurity, ethnic minorities, people and communities at risk of exposure to bovine tuberculosis, people living with diabetes, people with mental and physical disabilities, people with alcohol use disorders and people who use tobacco, recognizing the higher prevalence of tuberculosis among men;

18. Recognize the various sociocultural barriers to tuberculosis prevention, diagnosis and treatment services, especially for those who are vulnerable or in vulnerable situations, and the need to develop integrated, people-centred, community-based and gender-responsive health services based on human rights;

19. Commit to promoting access to affordable medicines, including generics, for scaling up access to affordable tuberculosis treatment, including the treatment of multidrug-resistant and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis, reaffirming the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement), as amended, and also reaffirming the 2001 World Trade Organization Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which recognizes that intellectual property rights should be interpreted and implemented in a manner supportive of the right of Member States to protect public health and, in particular, to promote access to medicines for all, and notes the need for appropriate incentives in the development of new health products;

20. Recall with concern that, until recently, no new medicines for tuberculosis treatment had been approved for over 40 years, and acknowledge that innovative approaches, including greater engagement between the public and private sectors, will be necessary to develop new vaccines, drugs and other health technologies to respond to the tuberculosis epidemic;

21. Recognize the lack of sufficient and sustainable financing for the tuberculosis response, including for the implementation of integrated, people-centred prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care of tuberculosis, including community-based health service delivery, and for tuberculosis research and innovation, including for the development and evaluation of better diagnostics, drugs, treatment regimens and vaccines, as well as other innovative care and prevention approaches, such as addressing social and economic factors of the disease;

22. Recognize that, to end the tuberculosis epidemic by 2030, reliable data on incidence, prevalence and mortality, where appropriate, disaggregated by income, sex, age and other characteristics relevant to national contexts, as well as the strengthening of national capacity for the use and analysis of such data, would be needed to ensure that collective knowledge is transformed into effective and timely action, and that progress at both the global and national levels needs to be reviewed regularly to ensure that we remain on target;

23. Take note with appreciation of the ongoing process of drafting a multisectoral accountability framework to accelerate progress to end tuberculosis, as agreed in World Health Assembly resolution 71.3 of 26 May 2018;<sup>16</sup>

24. Commit to providing diagnosis and treatment with the aim of successfully treating 40 million people with tuberculosis from 2018 to 2022, including 3.5 million children, and 1.5 million people with drug-resistant tuberculosis, including 115,000 children, bearing in mind varying degrees of the burden of tuberculosis among countries, and recognize the constrained health system capacity of low-income countries, and thereby aiming to achieve effective universal access to quality diagnosis, treatment, care, and adherence support, without suffering financial hardship, with a special focus on reaching those who are vulnerable and the marginalized populations and communities among the 4 million people each year who have been most likely to miss out on quality care;

25. Commit to preventing tuberculosis for those most at risk of falling ill through the rapid scaling up of access to testing for tuberculosis infection, according to the domestic situation, and the provision of preventive treatment, with a focus on high-burden countries, so that at least 30 million people, including 4 million children under 5 years of age, 20 million other household contacts of people affected by tuberculosis, and 6 million people living with HIV, receive preventive treatment by 2022, and with the vision of reaching millions more, and further commit to the development of new vaccines and the provision of other tuberculosis prevention strategies, including infection prevention and control and tailored approaches, and to enacting measures to prevent tuberculosis transmission in workplaces, schools, transportation systems, incarceration systems and other congregate settings;

26. Commit to overcoming the global public health crisis of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis through actions for prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care, including compliance with stewardship programmes to address the development of drug resistance in line with General Assembly resolution 71/3 on antimicrobial resistance, improved national, regional and global pharmaco-vigilance, and improved treatment adherence for people with drug-sensitive tuberculosis; universal, equitable and affordable access to quality diagnosis, treatment, care and support for people with drug-resistant tuberculosis; global collaboration to ensure accelerated development of accessible and affordable diagnostic tools, and shorter and more effective oral regimens, including those that meet the unique needs of children; and through an urgent response to multidrug-resistant tuberculosis and the scale and severity of local and national epidemics of the disease;

27. Ensure that tuberculosis programmes actively contribute to developing national antimicrobial resistance strategies, capacities and plans and that lessons learned from global, regional and national efforts to combat drug-resistant tuberculosis inform the design and implementation of both global antimicrobial resistance strategies and national action plans according to national contexts;

28. Commit to address tuberculosis prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care in the context of child health and survival, as an important cause of preventable childhood illness and death, including among children with HIV and as a co-morbidity of other common childhood illnesses, especially pneumonia, meningitis and malnutrition; to enable child-friendly policies and an integrated, family-based approach to tuberculosis care and services, address the

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<sup>16</sup> See World Health Organization, document WHA71/2018/REC/1.

vulnerabilities faced by children affected by tuberculosis, support their caregivers, in particular women and the elderly, and provide related social protection; to promote equitable access to child-friendly formulations of medicines to optimize the prevention and treatment of drug-sensitive and drug-resistant tuberculosis among children, including through addressing national regulatory and policy barriers;

29. Given the strong association between the two diseases, and associated high mortality, commit to coordination and collaboration between tuberculosis and HIV programmes, as well as with other health programmes and sectors, to ensure universal access to integrated prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care services, in accordance with national legislation, including through promoting testing for HIV among people with tuberculosis and screening all people living with HIV regularly for tuberculosis, and providing tuberculosis preventive treatment, as well as to eliminate the burden faced by affected people, to leverage resources to maximize impact, and to address the common social, economic and structural determinants of tuberculosis, HIV, viral hepatitis, non-communicable diseases, in particular diabetes, and the complex biological factors that increase tuberculosis incidence and mortality, worsen treatment outcomes and increase drug resistance;

30. Commit to finding the missing people with tuberculosis, and integrating tuberculosis efforts more fully into all relevant health services to increase access to tuberculosis services, recognizing that reaching undetected and untreated men, as well as empowering women and girls through community health care and outreach, is a critical part of the solution, and to considering responses appropriate for men and women, boys and girls;

31. Commit to systematic screening, as appropriate, of relevant risk groups, as identified in World Health Organization guidance documents, for active and latent tuberculosis, to ensure early detection and prompt treatment in groups disproportionately affected by tuberculosis, such as people living with diabetes and people living with HIV, and to implementing primary prevention in high-risk occupations by reducing silica dust exposure in mining, construction and other dusty workplaces, and worker tuberculosis surveillance and infection prevention and control in health-care settings;

32. Commit to adapting and implementing rapidly the End TB Strategy to ensure that current guidance from the World Health Organization and other relevant international entities, relevant to the tuberculosis response in each country, is rapidly adapted and implemented and scaled up, where necessary, in taking forward the commitment to quality prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care of tuberculosis;

33. Commit to developing community-based health services through approaches that protect and promote equity, ethics, gender equality and human rights in addressing tuberculosis by focusing on prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care, including socioeconomic and psychosocial support, based on individual needs, that reduce stigma, and integrated care for related health conditions, such as HIV and AIDS, undernutrition, mental health, non-communicable diseases including diabetes and chronic lung disease, and tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol and other substance abuse, including drug injection, with access to existing and new tools;

34. Commit to related improvements in policies and systems on each country's path towards achieving and sustaining universal health coverage, such that all people with tuberculosis or at risk of developing tuberculosis receive the quality, accessible and affordable prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care services they need without suffering financial hardship, with stewardship of antimicrobials and prevention and infection control, within public and community, including faith-based, organizations, and private sector services;

35. Given the global nature of the tuberculosis epidemic and the critical public health challenge of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis, commit to strengthening public health systems as an essential pillar of the tuberculosis response, including health workforce capacity-building for public and private sector care, as well as community-based care services, and related robust multisectoral partnership frameworks in countries where the non-public sector is the leading tuberculosis care provider, laboratory networks, infection prevention and control, medicines procurement, distribution and regulatory capacity and access to diagnostic technologies for drug resistance; cross-border collaboration; and robust health information systems comprising integrated case-based electronic surveillance, reliable data, including at the national and subnational levels, with disaggregation by age, sex, disability and other characteristics relevant to national contexts, for monitoring the level of and trends in the epidemic, treatment outcome monitoring, and improvements in national vital registration systems;

36. Commit to considering, as appropriate, how digital technologies could be integrated into existing health system infrastructures and regulation for effective tuberculosis prevention, treatment and care, reinforcing national

and global health priorities by optimizing existing platforms and services, for the promotion of people-centred health and disease prevention and in order to reduce the burden on health systems;

37. Commit to protect and promote the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, in order to advance towards universal access to quality, affordable and equitable prevention, diagnosis, treatment, care and education related to tuberculosis and multidrug-resistant tuberculosis and support for those who become disabled due to tuberculosis, integrated within health systems towards achieving universal health coverage and removing barriers to care; to address the economic and social determinants of the disease; and to promote and support an end to stigma and all forms of discrimination, including by removing discriminatory laws, policies and programmes against people with tuberculosis, and through the protection and promotion of human rights and dignity, as well as policies and practices which improve outreach, education and care;

38. Commit to providing special attention to the poor, those who are vulnerable, including infants, young children and adolescents, as well as elderly people and communities especially at risk of and affected by tuberculosis, in accordance with the principle of social inclusion, especially through ensuring strong and meaningful engagement of civil society and affected communities in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the tuberculosis response, within and beyond the health sector; we further acknowledge the link between incarceration and tuberculosis and therefore reaffirm the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) as defined in General Assembly resolution [70/175](#) of 17 December 2015;

39. Commit to enable and pursue multisectoral collaboration at the global, regional, national and local levels, across health and nutrition, finance, labour, social protection, education, science and technology, justice, agriculture, the environment, housing, trade, development and other sectors, in order to ensure that all relevant stakeholders pursue actions to end tuberculosis and leave no one behind;

40. Strengthen support and capacity-building in low-income countries and lower-middle-income countries, many of which have high rates of tuberculosis combined with health and social protection systems that have limited resources, including to support implementing multisectoral approaches in their response to the tuberculosis epidemic;

41. Commit to foster cooperation between public and private sector entities in furthering the development of newly approved medicines for multidrug-resistant and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis and for additional new drugs in the future, as part of Member States' efforts to contribute appropriately to research and development;

42. Commit to advancing research for basic science, public health research and the development of innovative products and approaches, which may include evidence-based, regulated medicines, including traditional medicines as adjuvant therapies, including in cooperation with the private sector and academia, without which ending the tuberculosis epidemic will be impossible, including towards delivering, as soon as possible, new, safe, effective, equitable, affordable, available vaccines, point-of-care and child-friendly diagnostics, drug susceptibility tests and safer and more effective drugs and shorter treatment regimens for adults, adolescents and children for all forms of tuberculosis and infection, as well as innovation to strengthen health systems such as information and communication tools and delivery systems for new and existing technologies, to enable integrated people-centred prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care of tuberculosis;

43. Commit to create an environment conducive to research and development of new tools for tuberculosis, and to enable timely and effective innovation and affordable and available access to existing and new tools and delivery strategies and promote their proper use, by promoting competition and collaboration, removing barriers to innovation, and working towards improving regulatory processes and capabilities;

44. Further commit to advancing that new research and innovation environment through global collaboration, including through existing World Health Organization mechanisms and initiatives; strengthening research capacity and collaboration through improving tuberculosis research platforms and networks across the public and private sectors, noting such platforms and networks as the Brazil, Russian Federation, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) Tuberculosis Research Network and the Life Prize; in basic science, clinical research and development, including pre-clinical and clinical trials, as well as operational, qualitative and applied research, to advance effective tuberculosis prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and care and actions on the economic and social determinants and impacts of the disease;

45. Promote tuberculosis research and development efforts aiming to be needs-driven, evidence-based and guided by the principles of affordability, effectiveness, efficiency and equity and which should be considered as a shared responsibility. In this regard, we encourage the development of new product development partnership models



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and, for multidrug-resistant tuberculosis, continue to support existing voluntary initiatives and incentive mechanisms that separate the cost of investment in research and development from the price and volume of sales, to facilitate equitable and affordable access to new tools and other results to be gained through research and development, and we acknowledge the need to establish additional incentives for the research and development of new products to treat multidrug-resistant tuberculosis and to encourage stewardship, conservation, and global access to such products in addition to rewarding innovation, welcome innovation and research and development models that deliver effective, safe and equitable solutions to the challenges presented by tuberculosis, including those that promote investment by all relevant stakeholders, including Governments, industry, non-governmental organizations and academics, and continue to support existing voluntary initiatives and incentive mechanisms that avoid reliance on high price or high sales combinations and explore ways to support innovation models that address the unique set of challenges presented by tuberculosis, including the importance of the optimal use of medicines and diagnostic tools, while promoting access to affordable medicines and other health technologies;

46. Commit to mobilize sufficient and sustainable financing for universal access to quality prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care of tuberculosis, from all sources, with the aim of increasing overall global investments for ending tuberculosis and reaching at least 13 billion United States dollars a year by 2022, as estimated by the Stop TB Partnership and the World Health Organization, according to each country's capacity and strengthened solidarity, including through contributions to the World Health Organization as well as voluntary mechanisms such as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, including its replenishment, which provides 65 per cent of all international financing for tuberculosis; and to align within overall national health financing strategies, including by helping developing countries to raise domestic revenues and providing financial support bilaterally, at regional and global levels, towards achieving universal health coverage and social protection strategies, in the lead-up to 2030;

47. Commit to mobilize sufficient and sustainable financing, with the aim of increasing overall global investments to 2 billion dollars, in order to close the estimated 1.3 billion dollar gap in funding annually for tuberculosis research, ensuring that all countries contribute appropriately to research and development, to support quality research and development of new and the effective implementation of recently approved health technologies, and to strengthen the academic, scientific, public health and laboratory capacity needed to support research and development for prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care, inter alia through the engagement of national, international and innovative financing mechanisms;

48. Commit to develop or strengthen, as appropriate, national tuberculosis strategic plans to include all necessary measures to deliver the commitments in the present political declaration, including through national multisectoral mechanisms to monitor and review progress achieved towards ending the tuberculosis epidemic, with high-level leadership, preferably under the direction of the Head of State or Government, and with the active involvement of civil society and affected communities, as well as parliamentarians, local governments, academia, private sector and other stakeholders within and beyond the health sector, and promote tuberculosis as part of national strategic planning and budgeting for health, recognizing existing legislative frameworks and constitutional arrangements, so as to ensure that each Member State is on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals target to end the tuberculosis epidemic;

49. Request the Director General of the World Health Organization to continue to develop the multisectoral accountability framework in line with World Health Assembly resolution 71.3 and ensure its timely implementation no later than 2019;

50. Commit to establishing and promoting regional efforts and collaboration to set ambitious targets, generate resources, and use existing regional intergovernmental institutions to review progress, share lessons and strengthen collective capacity to end tuberculosis;

51. Recognize the need to strengthen linkages between tuberculosis elimination and relevant Sustainable Development Goals targets, including towards achieving universal health coverage, through existing Sustainable Development Goals review processes, including the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

52. Request the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Director General of the World Health Organization, to promote collaboration among all stakeholders to end the tuberculosis epidemic and implement the present declaration, with Member States and relevant entities, including funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, United Nations regional commissions, the Stop TB Partnership, hosted by the United Nations Office for Project Services, UNITAID, hosted by the World Health Organization, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria;

53. Also request the Secretary-General, with the support of the World Health Organization, to provide a progress report in 2020 on global and national progress, across sectors, in accelerating efforts to achieve agreed tuberculosis goals within the context of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including on the progress and implementation of the present declaration towards agreed tuberculosis goals at the national, regional and global levels, which will serve to inform preparations for a comprehensive review by Heads of State and Government at a high-level meeting in 2023.

### RESOLUTION 73/5

Adopted at the 20th plenary meeting, on 16 October 2018, by a recorded vote of 146 to 3, with 15 abstentions,\* on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.5](#), sponsored by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China)

\* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Israel, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Andorra, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Honduras, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Monaco, Poland, Slovakia, Tuvalu

#### 73/5. Chair of the Group of 77 for 2019

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* the role and authority of the General Assembly as a principal organ of the United Nations and the importance of its effectiveness and efficiency in fulfilling its functions under the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolution [67/19](#) of 29 November 2012 on the status of the State of Palestine in the United Nations,

*Noting* that the State of Palestine is a party to many instruments concluded under the auspices of the United Nations and has joined several specialized agencies and bodies of the United Nations as a full member,

*Aware* that the State of Palestine is a full member of the League of Arab States, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the Group of Asia-Pacific States and the Group of 77,

*Acknowledging* that it is for each group to define the modalities of its representation and leadership,

*Taking note* of the decision by the forty-second annual meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77 of 27 September 2018 to elect the State of Palestine to chair the Group of 77 for the year 2019,

1. *Decides* to adopt the modalities set out in the annex to the present resolution for the participation of the State of Palestine in the sessions and work of the General Assembly and the international conferences convened under the auspices of the Assembly or other organs of the United Nations, as well as in United Nations conferences, for the duration of the chairmanship by the State of Palestine of the Group of 77;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council, insofar as the rights concerned could be exercised by a Chair of the Group of 77 not a member of the Council, and other relevant organs, specialized agencies, organizations and entities within the United Nations system to apply the above-mentioned modalities for the duration of the chairmanship by the State of Palestine of the Group of 77;

3. *Invites* the Secretariat to continue to facilitate the work of the Group of 77 and its Chair, in line with the established practice;

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4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the measures necessary to implement the modalities set out in the annex to the present resolution.

### Annex

The additional rights and privileges of participation of the State of Palestine for 2019 shall be given effect through the following modalities, without prejudice to its existing rights and privileges:

- (a) The right to make statements on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, including among representatives of major groups;
- (b) The right to submit proposals and amendments and introduce them on behalf of the Group of 77 and China;
- (c) The right to co-sponsor proposals and amendments;
- (d) The right to make explanations of vote on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China;
- (e) The right of reply regarding positions of the Group of 77 and China;
- (f) The right to raise procedural motions, including points of order and requests to put proposals to the vote, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

### RESOLUTION 73/6

Adopted at the 26th plenary meeting, on 26 October 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.6](#) and [A/73/L.6/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, France, Greece, Guinea, Israel, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Paraguay, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay

#### **73/6. Fiftieth anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: space as a driver of sustainable development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 2453 A (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, [37/90](#) of 10 December 1982, [54/68](#) of 6 December 1999, [59/2](#) of 20 October 2004 and [72/79](#) of 7 December 2017,

*Recognizing* that the fiftieth anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE+50) offers a unique opportunity for Member States to reflect on more than 50 years of achievement in space exploration and use and to chart the future contribution of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to the global governance of outer space activities,<sup>17</sup> at a time when more participants, representing both governmental agencies and non-governmental entities, including industry and the private sector, are increasingly becoming involved in ventures to explore and use space and carry out space activities,

*Convinced* that UNISPACE+50 also offers a unique opportunity for Member States to look towards the future by strengthening the roles and activities of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and its Legal Subcommittee and the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat as unique platforms for international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, in the fulfilment of their respective mandates,

*Emphasizing* that, for the past 50 years, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees, supported by the Office for Outer Space Affairs, have provided unique platforms to promote international cooperation in space activities at all levels, to foster dialogue among spacefaring and emerging space nations, to increase capacity-building efforts for developing countries and to continue to shape the global governance of outer space activities to benefit people and the planet,

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<sup>17</sup> See [A/AC.105/1137](#).

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*Convinced* that the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>18</sup> of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030<sup>19</sup> and of the commitments by States parties to the Paris Agreement<sup>20</sup> requires stronger coordination and support at all international levels, including through improved access to space-based data, applications and space infrastructure,

*Noting with satisfaction* the activities carried out under, and the valuable support provided to Member States by, the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER), and acknowledging the valuable contributions of its network of regional support offices, while recognizing the need to enhance the Platform in order to ensure that it can fully deliver solutions and services under its established mandate and respond appropriately to the needs of developing countries,

*Recognizing* the importance of capacity-building, education and training provided by the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated to the United Nations, in particular for developing countries, and the need to enhance them to improve their overall capacity,

*Recognizing also* the important role of initiatives undertaken at the national, regional, interregional and broader international levels, including initiatives under the auspices of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and the Office for Outer Space Affairs, in fostering international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space for the continuous growth and diversification of space activities,

*Recognizing further* that space science and technology and their applications have and will continue to have a significant role in achieving the comprehensive 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals and targets contained therein, which are of critical importance for humankind and the planet,

*Emphasizing* the need to build stronger partnerships and international cooperation and coordination in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space at all levels and among the participants representing the space community, in order to enhance the contribution of space activities for the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals and targets contained therein,

*Reiterating* that all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, are participants in, contributors to and beneficiaries of the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space,

*Stressing* the need to ensure the long-term sustainability of outer space activities and, in particular, the need to address the significant challenge posed by space debris, and convinced of the need to strengthen, through the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, international cooperation to achieve those goals and contribute to realizing a shared vision for the future in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes and for the benefit and in the interest of all humankind,

*Convinced* that ensuring that outer space remains an operationally stable and safe environment suitable for use by current and future generations would be consistent with the long-standing principles contained in the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,<sup>21</sup>

*Seriously concerned* about the possibility of an arms race in outer space, and bearing in mind the importance of article IV of the Treaty,

*Recognizing* that all Member States, in particular those with major space capabilities, should contribute actively to the prevention of an arms race in outer space, with a view to promoting and strengthening international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

*Mindful* of the need to promote access to the scientific, technological, economic, social, environmental and cultural benefits of space activities through international cooperation, and reaffirming that outer space shall be free for exploration and use by all States without any discrimination of any kind, on the basis of equality and in accordance with international law,

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<sup>18</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>19</sup> Resolution 69/283, annex II.

<sup>20</sup> See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.

<sup>21</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

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*Reaffirming*, in that regard, General Assembly resolution [51/122](#) of 13 December 1996, entitled “Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the Benefit and in the Interest of All States, Taking into Particular Account the Needs of Developing Countries”, and the need to promote the fullest implementation thereof,

*Mindful* of the importance of increasing knowledge of outer space, including through enhanced access to astronomy and space science data for the benefit of humankind,

*Convinced* of the need for the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees to continue to address issues arising from commercial activities in outer space and consider how those activities might support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Acknowledging* that significant changes have occurred in the structure and content of space activities, as reflected in the emergence of new technologies and the increasing number of participants in such activities, and in this regard recognizing the benefit of strengthening the global governance of outer space activities,

*Reiterating*, in that regard, the role of the Treaty as the cornerstone of the international legal regime governing outer space activities, reiterating also that the Treaty manifests the fundamental principles of international space law, and convinced that the Treaty will continue to provide an indispensable framework for the conduct of outer space activities,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, in preparation for UNISPACE+50, has analysed the impact of the three United Nations Conferences on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, held in 1968, 1982 and 1999, as well as the review undertaken in 2004, and has assessed its past, present and future roles, as well as those of its subcommittees and the Office for Outer Space Affairs, and noting with satisfaction also that that assessment provided the basis for the selection of the seven thematic priorities of UNISPACE+50,<sup>17</sup>

*Noting with appreciation* the outstanding work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees and the Office for Outer Space Affairs to develop the seven thematic priorities and the objectives, mechanisms and background documents related to UNISPACE+50,<sup>22</sup> which provide a perspective for the preparation of a “Space2030” agenda, as well as the work carried out within the framework of the four identified pillars, namely space economy, space society, space accessibility and space diplomacy,

*Emphasizing* that the seven thematic priorities of UNISPACE+50 represent a comprehensive approach to addressing key areas that together determine core objectives for the future work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees and the Office for Outer Space Affairs in the areas of global partnership in space exploration and innovation, current and future perspectives of the legal regime of outer space and global governance, enhanced information exchange on space objects and events, an international framework for space weather services, strengthened space cooperation for global health, international cooperation towards low-emission and resilient societies, and capacity-building for the twenty-first century,

*Welcoming* the UNISPACE+50 high-level segment, held in Vienna on 20 and 21 June 2018 to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, which marked a significant step towards charting the future contribution of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to the global governance of outer space activities, including a “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan as part of the ongoing development of a comprehensive strategy, based on the UNISPACE+50 preparatory process, for strengthening the contribution of space activities and space tools to the achievement of the global agendas addressing long-term sustainable development concerns of humankind,

1. *Notes with appreciation* that the preparatory process and the high-level segment of UNISPACE+50 resulted in documents aimed at articulating a comprehensive, inclusive and strategically oriented vision on strengthening international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space, in which space is seen as a major driver of and contributor to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals<sup>18</sup> for the benefit of all countries;

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<sup>22</sup> Related documents include [A/AC.105/1129](#), [A/AC.105/1131](#), [A/AC.105/1160](#), [A/AC.105/1161](#), [A/AC.105/1162](#), [A/AC.105/1163](#), [A/AC.105/1164](#), [A/AC.105/1165](#), [A/AC.105/1166](#), [A/AC.105/1168](#), [A/AC.105/1169](#), [A/AC.105/1170](#), [A/AC.105/1171](#), [A/AC.105/1172](#), [A/AC.105/1173](#), [A/AC.105/1174](#), [A/AC.105/1175](#), [A/AC.105/1180](#) and [A/AC.105/1181](#).

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2. *Invites* the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to continue to develop, on the basis of the results of the UNISPACE+50 process, a “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan and to provide the General Assembly with the outcome of its work for consideration by the Assembly at its seventy-fifth session;

3. *Acknowledges* the importance of global partnership and strengthened cooperation among Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, industry and private sector entities in fulfilling the “Space2030” agenda and its implementation plan;

4. *Encourages* all Member States to continue to promote and actively contribute to strengthening international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space and the global governance of outer space activities, addressing challenges to humanity and sustainable development, ensuring the long-term sustainability of outer space activities and facilitating the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>18</sup> taking into account the particular needs of developing countries;

5. *Encourages* Member States to actively conduct bilateral, multilateral, regional and broader international space cooperation in various forms, including capacity-building, information- and infrastructure-sharing and the development of joint projects and, when appropriate, to integrate space cooperation with economic and development cooperation, in order to promote increased participation in space activities for emerging spacefaring nations and to assist countries in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

6. *Emphasizes* the need to promote international cooperation and take further coordinated action to ensure that space science and technology and their applications serve the goals of sustainable development and the betterment of humankind;

7. *Reaffirms* the unique role of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees, supported by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat, as unique platforms for international cooperation in the exploration and uses of outer space for peaceful purposes, for the global governance of outer space activities, for developing international space law, for fostering dialogue among spacefaring and emerging space nations and for promoting the increased involvement of all countries in space activities, including through capacity-building initiatives;

8. *Emphasizes* the need for the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to consider strengthening its role and activities, and those of its subcommittees, as supported by the Office for Outer Space Affairs, with a view to aligning them with the evolving needs identified by the Committee, taking into account, in particular, the “Space2030” agenda and its implementation plan, once agreed;

9. *Expresses its conviction* that the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, its subcommittees and the Office for Outer Space Affairs should continue to coordinate efforts to strengthen the implementation of the United Nations treaties and principles on outer space as a means of promoting the universality thereof;

10. *Encourages* States Members of the United Nations that have not done so to consider becoming members of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;

11. *Encourages* the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and the Office for Outer Space Affairs to continue to fulfil their respective mandates and to cooperate and coordinate with other relevant entities within the United Nations system, and invites the Committee to explore ways to optimize cooperation and coordination, as appropriate, with other international organizations on space-related activities;

12. *Emphasizes* the need to strengthen the coordination and interrelationship between the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees, assisted by the Office for Outer Space Affairs, in addressing their respective agenda items in a comprehensive, cross-cutting manner, combining scientific, technical, legal and policy dimensions, so as to, inter alia, foster the use of space as a driver of global sustainable development towards 2030 and beyond;

13. *Urges* the Secretary-General to consider the sufficiency of resources provided to the Office for Outer Space Affairs in its role as secretariat to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees and to ensure that the Office can fully and effectively implement its mandate, including capacity-building activities for Member States in the field of space science and technology and their applications, as well as in space law and policy, taking into account the development of a “Space2030” agenda;

14. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide voluntary extrabudgetary resources for these purposes, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.



## RESOLUTION 73/7

Adopted at the 28th plenary meeting, on 29 October 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.8](#) and [A/73/L.8/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu

### 73/7. Report of the International Criminal Court

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution [72/3](#) of 30 October 2017 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

*Recalling also* that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court<sup>23</sup> reaffirms the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recognizing* the International Criminal Court as an independent permanent judicial institution and, in this regard, that the United Nations and the Court respect each other's status and mandate,

*Reiterating* the historic significance of the adoption of the Rome Statute,

*Emphasizing* that justice, especially transitional justice in conflict and post-conflict societies, is a fundamental building block of sustainable peace,

*Convinced* that ending impunity is essential for coming to terms with any past crimes committed and preventing such crimes in the future,

*Acknowledging* the fact that the International Criminal Court has achieved considerable progress in its investigations and judicial proceedings in various situations and cases which were referred to it by States parties to the Rome Statute and by the Security Council, and which the Prosecutor of the Court has initiated *proprio motu*, in accordance with the Rome Statute,

*Recalling* that effective and comprehensive cooperation and assistance in all aspects of its mandate by States, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations remain essential for the International Criminal Court to carry out its activities,

*Expressing its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for providing effective and efficient assistance to the International Criminal Court in accordance with the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court,<sup>24</sup>

*Acknowledging* the Relationship Agreement as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution [58/318](#) of 13 September 2004, including paragraph 3 of the resolution, with respect to the payment in full of expenses accruing to the United Nations as a result of the implementation of the Relationship Agreement,<sup>25</sup> which provides a framework for continued cooperation between the International Criminal Court and the United Nations, which enables, inter alia, facilitation by the United Nations of the Court's field activities, and encouraging the conclusion of supplementary arrangements and agreements, as necessary,

*Noting* the need for funding of expenses related to investigations or prosecutions of the International Criminal Court, including in connection with situations referred to the Court by the Security Council,

*Welcoming* the continuous support given by civil society to the International Criminal Court,

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<sup>23</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

<sup>24</sup> [A/58/874](#) and [A/58/874/Add.1](#).

<sup>25</sup> Articles 10 and 13 of the Relationship Agreement.

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*Stressing* the importance that the Rome Statute accords to the rights and needs of victims, in particular their right to participate in judicial proceedings and to claim reparations, and emphasizing the importance of informing and involving victims and affected communities in order to give effect to the mandate of the International Criminal Court towards victims,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the International Criminal Court for 2017/18;<sup>26</sup>
2. *Also welcomes* the States that have become parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,<sup>23</sup> and calls upon all States in all regions of the world that are not yet parties to the Rome Statute to consider ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to it without delay;
3. *Further welcomes* the States parties as well as States not parties to the Rome Statute that are parties to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court,<sup>27</sup> and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to that Agreement;
4. *Notes* the recent ratifications and acceptances of the amendments adopted at the Review Conference of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, held in Kampala from 31 May to 11 June 2010;
5. *Underlines*, bearing in mind that in accordance with the Rome Statute the International Criminal Court is complementary to national criminal jurisdictions, that States need to adopt appropriate measures within their national legal systems for those crimes for which they are required under international law to exercise their responsibility to investigate and prosecute;
6. *Encourages* further efforts by the United Nations, other international and regional organizations and States, as well as civil society, to appropriately assist States, upon their request, in strengthening their domestic capacity to investigate and prosecute crimes, and in this regard underlines the importance of national ownership;
7. *Emphasizes* the importance of international cooperation and judicial assistance in conducting effective investigations and prosecutions;
8. *Acknowledges* the role of the International Criminal Court in a multilateral system that aims to end impunity, promote the rule of law, promote and encourage respect for human rights, achieve sustainable peace and further the development of nations, in accordance with international law and the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;
9. *Calls upon* States parties to the Rome Statute that have not yet done so to adopt national legislation to implement obligations emanating from the Rome Statute and to cooperate with the International Criminal Court in the exercise of its functions, and recalls the provision of technical assistance by States parties in this respect;
10. *Welcomes* the cooperation and assistance provided thus far to the International Criminal Court by States parties as well as States not parties, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, and calls upon those States that are under an obligation to cooperate to provide such cooperation and assistance in the future, in particular with regard to arrest and surrender, the provision of evidence, the protection and relocation of victims and witnesses and the enforcement of sentences;
11. *Notes* the efforts of the Secretary-General in promoting cooperation between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court in accordance with the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court,<sup>24</sup> and also notes in this regard that the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat has a specific role within the United Nations;
12. *Recalls* article 3 of the Relationship Agreement, according to which, with a view to facilitating the effective discharge of their respective responsibilities, the United Nations and the International Criminal Court shall cooperate closely, whenever appropriate, with each other and consult each other on matters of mutual interest pursuant to the provisions of the Relationship Agreement and in conformity with the respective provisions of the Charter and the Rome Statute, and shall respect each other's status and mandate,<sup>28</sup> and requests the Secretary-General to continue to include information relevant to the implementation of article 3 of the Relationship Agreement in a report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

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<sup>26</sup> [A/73/334](#).

<sup>27</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2271, No. 40446.

<sup>28</sup> Article 2, paragraph 3, of the Relationship Agreement.



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13. *Recalls* the guidance issued by the Secretary-General on contacts with persons who are the subject of arrest warrants or summonses issued by the International Criminal Court,<sup>29</sup> and in this regard takes note of the information included in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of article 3 of the Relationship Agreement;<sup>30</sup>
14. *Recalls* the Relationship Agreement, and notes that expenses related to investigations or prosecutions incurred by the International Criminal Court in connection with situations referred by the Security Council or otherwise continue to be borne exclusively by States parties to the Rome Statute;
15. *Emphasizes* the importance of cooperation with States that are not parties to the Rome Statute;
16. *Invites* regional organizations to consider concluding cooperation agreements with the International Criminal Court;
17. *Recalls* that, by virtue of article 12, paragraph 3, of the Rome Statute, if the acceptance of a State which is not a party to the Rome Statute is required under article 12, paragraph 2, of the Rome Statute, that State may, by declaration lodged with the Registrar of the International Criminal Court, accept the exercise of jurisdiction by the Court with respect to the crime in question;
18. *Urges* all States parties to take the interests, needs for assistance and mandate of the International Criminal Court into account when relevant matters are being discussed in the United Nations, and invites all other States to consider doing the same, as appropriate;
19. *Emphasizes* the importance of the full implementation of all aspects of the Relationship Agreement, which forms a framework for close cooperation between the two organizations and for consultation on matters of mutual interest pursuant to the provisions of that Agreement and in conformity with the respective provisions of the Charter and the Rome Statute, as well as the need for the Secretary-General to continue to inform the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session of the expenses incurred and reimbursements received by the United Nations in connection with assistance provided to the International Criminal Court;
20. *Encourages* further dialogue between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court, and welcomes in this regard the increased interaction of the Security Council with the Court under various formats, including the holding of open debates on peace and justice and working methods, with a special focus on the role of the Court;
21. *Continues* to welcome the statement by the President of the Security Council of 12 February 2013<sup>31</sup> in which the Council reiterated its previous call regarding the importance of State cooperation with the International Criminal Court, in accordance with the respective obligations of States, and expressed its commitment to effective follow-up of Council decisions in this regard;
22. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work undertaken by the International Criminal Court liaison office to United Nations Headquarters, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to work closely with that office;
23. *Encourages* States to contribute to the trust fund established for the benefit of victims of crimes within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court and the families of such victims, and acknowledges with appreciation contributions made to that trust fund thus far;
24. *Recalls* that, at the Review Conference of the Rome Statute, which was convened and opened by the Secretary-General, States parties reaffirmed their commitment to the Rome Statute and its full implementation, as well as its universality and integrity, and that the Review Conference undertook a stocktaking exercise of international criminal justice, considering the impact of the Rome Statute on victims and affected communities, peace and justice, complementarity and cooperation, called for the strengthening of the enforcement of sentences, adopted amendments to the Rome Statute to expand the jurisdiction of the Court to cover three additional war crimes when committed in armed conflicts not of an international character, and adopted amendments to the Rome Statute to define the crime of aggression and to establish conditions under which the Court could exercise jurisdiction with respect to that crime;
25. *Acknowledges* the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization,<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>29</sup> A/67/828-S/2013/210, annex.

<sup>30</sup> A/73/335.

<sup>31</sup> S/PRST/2013/2; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2012–31 July 2013* (S/INF/68).

<sup>32</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/73/1).

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26. *Takes note* of the decision of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court at its fifteenth session, while recalling that, according to article 112, paragraph 6, of the Rome Statute, the Assembly of States Parties shall meet at the seat of the Court or at United Nations Headquarters, to hold its seventeenth session in The Hague, looks forward to the seventeenth session, which is to be held from 5 to 12 December 2018, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and facilities in accordance with the Relationship Agreement and resolution 58/318;

27. *Encourages* the widest possible participation of States in the Assembly of States Parties, invites States to contribute to the trust fund for the participation of least developed countries, and acknowledges with appreciation contributions made to that trust fund thus far;

28. *Invites* the International Criminal Court to submit, if it deems it appropriate, in accordance with article 6 of the Relationship Agreement, a report on its activities for 2019/20, for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session.

### RESOLUTION 73/8

Adopted at the 30th plenary meeting, on 1 November 2018, by a recorded vote of 189 to 2, with no abstentions,\* on the basis of draft resolution A/73/L.3, sponsored by Cuba

\* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstaining:* None

#### **73/8. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba**

*The General Assembly,*

*Determined* to encourage strict compliance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming*, among other principles, the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention and non-interference in their internal affairs and freedom of international trade and navigation, which are also enshrined in many international legal instruments,

*Recalling* the statements of the Heads of State or Government of Latin America and the Caribbean at the Summits of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States regarding the need to put an end to the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed against Cuba,

*Concerned* about the continued promulgation and application by Member States of laws and regulations, such as that promulgated on 12 March 1996 known as "the Helms-Burton Act", the extraterritorial effects of which affect the sovereignty of other States, the legitimate interests of entities or persons under their jurisdiction and the freedom of trade and navigation,

## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

*Taking note* of declarations and resolutions of different intergovernmental forums, bodies and Governments that express the rejection by the international community and public opinion of the promulgation and application of measures of the kind referred to above,

*Recalling* its resolutions [47/19](#) of 24 November 1992, [48/16](#) of 3 November 1993, [49/9](#) of 26 October 1994, [50/10](#) of 2 November 1995, [51/17](#) of 12 November 1996, [52/10](#) of 5 November 1997, [53/4](#) of 14 October 1998, [54/21](#) of 9 November 1999, [55/20](#) of 9 November 2000, [56/9](#) of 27 November 2001, [57/11](#) of 12 November 2002, [58/7](#) of 4 November 2003, [59/11](#) of 28 October 2004, [60/12](#) of 8 November 2005, [61/11](#) of 8 November 2006, [62/3](#) of 30 October 2007, [63/7](#) of 29 October 2008, [64/6](#) of 28 October 2009, [65/6](#) of 26 October 2010, [66/6](#) of 25 October 2011, [67/4](#) of 13 November 2012, [68/8](#) of 29 October 2013, [69/5](#) of 28 October 2014, [70/5](#) of 27 October 2015, [71/5](#) of 26 October 2016 and [72/4](#) of 1 November 2017,

*Recalling also* the measures adopted by the Executive of the United States of America in 2015 and 2016 to modify several aspects of the application of the embargo, which contrast with the measures announced on 16 June 2017 to reinforce its implementation,

*Concerned* that, since the adoption of its resolutions [47/19](#), [48/16](#), [49/9](#), [50/10](#), [51/17](#), [52/10](#), [53/4](#), [54/21](#), [55/20](#), [56/9](#), [57/11](#), [58/7](#), [59/11](#), [60/12](#), [61/11](#), [62/3](#), [63/7](#), [64/6](#), [65/6](#), [66/6](#), [67/4](#), [68/8](#), [69/5](#), [70/5](#), [71/5](#) and [72/4](#), the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba is still in place, and concerned also about the adverse effects of such measures on the Cuban people and on Cuban nationals living in other countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution [72/4](#),<sup>33</sup>
2. *Reiterates its call upon* all States to refrain from promulgating and applying laws and measures of the kind referred to in the preamble to the present resolution, in conformity with their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which, inter alia, reaffirm the freedom of trade and navigation;
3. *Once again urges* States that have and continue to apply such laws and measures to take the steps necessary to repeal or invalidate them as soon as possible in accordance with their legal regime;
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the appropriate organs and agencies of the United Nations system, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution in the light of the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law and to submit it to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;
5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba”.

### RESOLUTION 73/9

Adopted at the 34th plenary meeting, on 9 November 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.19](#) and [A/73/L.19/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan

#### 73/9. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

*The General Assembly,*

*Having received* the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency for 2017,<sup>34</sup>

*Taking note* of the statement by the Director General of the Agency, in which he provided additional information on the main developments in the activities of the Agency during 2018,

*Recognizing* the importance of the work of the Agency,

<sup>33</sup> [A/73/85](#).

<sup>34</sup> See [A/73/315](#).

*Recognizing also* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Agency and the Agreement governing the relationship between the United Nations and the Agency as approved by the General Conference of the Agency on 23 October 1957 and by the General Assembly in the annex to its resolution 1145 (XII) of 14 November 1957,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency;<sup>34</sup>
2. *Takes note* of resolutions GC(62)/RES/6 on nuclear and radiation safety; GC(62)/RES/7 on nuclear security; GC(62)/RES/8 on the strengthening of the Agency's technical cooperation activities; GC(62)/RES/9 on strengthening the Agency's activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications, comprising GC(62)/RES/9 A on non-power nuclear applications, GC(62)/RES/9 B on nuclear power applications and GC(62)/RES/9 C on nuclear knowledge management; GC(62)/RES/10 on strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of Agency safeguards; GC(62)/RES/11 on the implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons safeguards agreement between the Agency and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; and GC(62)/RES/12 on the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East; and decisions GC(62)/DEC/10 on the amendment to article XIV.A of the statute of the Agency; and GC(62)/DEC/11 on the promotion of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Agency's decision-making process, adopted by the General Conference of the Agency at its sixty-second regular session, held from 17 to 21 September 2018;
3. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the indispensable role of the Agency in encouraging and assisting the development and practical application of atomic energy for peaceful uses, in technology transfer to developing countries and in nuclear safety, verification and security;
4. *Appeals* to Member States to continue to support the activities of the Agency;
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Director General of the Agency the records of the seventy-third session of the General Assembly relating to the activities of the Agency.

#### **RESOLUTION 73/10**

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 26 November 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.17](#) and [A/73/L.17/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Hungary, Italy, Montenegro, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine

#### **73/10. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution [66/111](#) of 9 December 2011, by which it granted observer status to the Central European Initiative,

*Recalling also* its resolutions [67/7](#) of 19 November 2012, [69/8](#) of 11 November 2014 and [71/13](#) of 21 November 2016, in which it invited the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Initiative in order to continue joint activities for the achievement of common objectives,

*Recalling further* the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation to promote the goals and objectives of the United Nations,

*Appreciating* the active involvement of the Initiative in establishing cooperation with the United Nations system and relevant international and regional organizations, aimed at the furthering of political and socioeconomic development by covering all its relevant dimensions,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution [71/13](#),<sup>35</sup>

1. *Welcomes* the important role consistently played by the Central European Initiative as a promoter of political dialogue and as a flexible and pragmatic platform for regional cooperation, thus supporting peace, stability, security and the economic progress of its member States, including through the implementation of tangible projects and programmes in priority fields;

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<sup>35</sup> See [A/73/328-S/2018/592](#), sect. II.

## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

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2. *Appreciates* the Central European Initiative Plan of Action 2018–2020, adopted at the Central European Initiative summit held in Minsk in December 2017 during the presidency of Belarus, aimed at promoting the connectivity and valorizing the diversity in the region;
3. *Recognizes* the commitment of the Initiative to contribute to the attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>36</sup>
4. *Acknowledges*, in this context, that the Central European Initiative Plan of Action 2018–2020 was elaborated in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and thus bears in mind that interconnectivity in sustainable development can facilitate the effective translation of sustainable development policies into concrete action at the national level;
5. *Values* the activities of the Initiative aimed at strengthening regional cooperation in such priority fields as good governance, including migration, digitalization and anti-corruption; economic growth, including transport, research and innovation, the bioeconomy and blue growth, and sustainable development and entrepreneurship; environmental protection, including climate change, energy, in particular renewable energy and energy efficiency, and biodiversity; intercultural cooperation, including social integration; media freedom; and scientific cooperation and education, including lifelong learning;
6. *Welcomes* the financing of projects through the Central European Initiative trust fund at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, entirely financed by Italy, which provides mainly grant-type assistance for specific components of technical cooperation projects, linked to large operations of the Bank in member States of the Central European Initiative that are not members of the European Union;
7. *Also welcomes* the financing of small-scale multilateral projects in the priority fields by the Central European Initiative Cooperation Fund, to which all member States contribute, and of projects related to capacity-building and the sharing of good practices with member States of the Central European Initiative that are not members of the European Union through the Know-how Exchange Programme, financed by Italy and Poland;
8. *Appreciates* the vigorous efforts of the Initiative to support, elaborate and realize joint regional projects in strategic areas in cooperation with other important regional and international players;
9. *Acknowledges*, in this context, the fruitful cooperation between the Initiative and the European Union, as one of the main co-funders of such projects, and supports the efforts of the Initiative to take concrete steps to establish other mutually beneficial partnerships with the European Union;
10. *Also acknowledges* the efforts undertaken by the Initiative in intensifying its cooperation with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe by joining forces in both financing and implementing projects addressing relevant issues, and in this regard welcomes the initiatives undertaken in cooperation with that Organization, under the Chairmanship-in-Office of Italy, which are focused on youth, education and human capital development;
11. *Notes* the cooperation established between the Initiative and other regional organizations and initiatives;
12. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Initiative to promoting fruitful cooperation with the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, with the aim of achieving mutual participation in events and meetings of common interest and developing practical and results-oriented joint projects, in particular with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the fields of culture and science and with the Economic Commission for Europe in the field of energy;
13. *Also welcomes* the cooperation established between the Initiative and the International Organization for Migration through the memorandum of understanding signed on 13 December 2016;
14. *Invites* the Secretary-General to intensify the exchange with the Initiative in order to continue the fruitful cooperation and to facilitate coordination between the secretariats;
15. *Encourages* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to strengthen cooperation with the Initiative through common action aimed at achieving the shared goals;

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<sup>36</sup> Resolution 70/1.



16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations”, the sub-item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative”.

### **RESOLUTION 73/11**

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 26 November 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.21](#) and [A/73/L.21/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Guinea, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uruguay

#### **73/11. Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution [51/1](#) of 15 October 1996, in which it invited the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) to participate as an observer in its sessions and work, and its resolution [71/19](#) of 21 November 2016, concerning the cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL, and calling for the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL,

*Recalling also* the cooperation agreement of 1997 between the United Nations and INTERPOL<sup>37</sup> and all other relevant cooperation agreements between them,

*Recalling further* all relevant United Nations resolutions recognizing that cooperation between the United Nations and international organizations such as INTERPOL can contribute to preventing and combating transnational crime, in particular transnational organized crime, and preventing and countering terrorism,

*Acknowledging* the cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in assisting the States Members of the United Nations that are also member countries of INTERPOL in preventing and responding to crime and in improving their law enforcement capabilities, upon their request,

*Recognizing* that INTERPOL is an apolitical and neutral international organization entrusted with the mandate of ensuring and promoting mutual assistance among criminal police authorities, in full respect of the sovereignty of Member States and consistent with their obligations under international law and the domestic laws and regulations of each Member State, and in accordance with the rules and regulations of INTERPOL,

*Acknowledging* that INTERPOL has been a key actor since 1923 in enabling and promoting international police cooperation in order to prevent and combat transnational crime, in particular transnational organized crime, through enhanced police cooperation among its member countries as well as in fostering innovation in police and law enforcement matters,

*Acknowledging also* the contributions derived from the global structure of the General Secretariat of INTERPOL, consisting of its seat in Lyon, France, its regional bureaux around the world, its Offices of the Special Representative at the United Nations, the European Union and the African Union and its Global Complex for Innovation,

*Welcoming* the role of the national central bureaux of INTERPOL, present in every member country, as the cornerstone of cooperation to enhance cohesion, stability and security and as the primary international policing hub, which links national police forces through its global network,

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<sup>37</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1996, No. 1200.

## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

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*Welcoming also* the cooperation between the United Nations counter-terrorism entities and INTERPOL in preventing and countering terrorism by assisting Member States, upon their request, in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,<sup>38</sup> including through information-sharing on foreign terrorist fighters, including those returning or relocating, and on improvements in border security,<sup>39</sup>

*Welcoming further* the cooperation and coordination efforts undertaken in accordance with the arrangement on cooperation of 21 July 2017 between the United Nations and INTERPOL, in relation to the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, supplementary to the cooperation agreement of 1997 between the United Nations and INTERPOL,

*Welcoming* the cooperation and coordination efforts undertaken between the Office of Counter-Terrorism and INTERPOL, in accordance with the arrangement on cooperation of 27 June 2018 between the United Nations and INTERPOL, in relation to the activities of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, supplementary to the cooperation agreement of 1997 between the United Nations and INTERPOL,

*Noting* the cooperation and coordination efforts undertaken in accordance with existing arrangements between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat and INTERPOL,

*Recognizing* the contribution of the cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>40</sup> through joint activities, capacity-building and targeted support of Member States in the fight against all forms of transnational crime and terrorism,

*Recalling* the political declaration on the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,<sup>41</sup> in which, inter alia, the General Assembly reaffirmed the important contribution of INTERPOL to the global fight against trafficking in persons, especially women and children,

*Recognizing* the contribution of the cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in combating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, and acknowledging the contribution of INTERPOL to the third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, and the relevant role of INTERPOL in the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons,<sup>42</sup>

*Noting* the cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in assisting Member States, upon their request, in tackling the illicit trafficking in chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials by non-State actors,

*Convinced* that increased and enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Constitution of INTERPOL, as well as applicable international law, will contribute to achieving the respective purposes and principles of both organizations,

1. *Calls for* the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), within their respective mandates, in (a) preventing and combating transnational crime, in particular transnational organized crime, including the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, drug trafficking, piracy, the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in small arms and light weapons, illicit trafficking in chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials, the criminal misuse of information and communications technologies, including the Internet and social media, corruption and money-laundering, trafficking in illicit and counterfeit goods and crimes that affect the environment, including illicit trafficking in endangered and, where applicable, protected species of wild flora and fauna; and (b) preventing and countering terrorism, including through preventing and disrupting foreign terrorist fighter travel, countering the use of information and communications technologies, including the Internet and social media, for terrorist purposes, while respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, preventing and interdicting access to weapons necessary for terrorist activities, including small

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<sup>38</sup> Resolution 60/288.

<sup>39</sup> See resolution 72/284.

<sup>40</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>41</sup> Resolution 72/1.

<sup>42</sup> See decision 60/519 and A/60/88 and A/60/88/Corr.2, annex.

arms and light weapons and improvised explosive devices, as well as to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials, countering the financing of terrorism, including financing through the use of emerging technologies and methods, preventing and disrupting financial support for foreign terrorist fighters and preventing and combating the intentional and unlawful destruction of cultural heritage and trafficking in cultural property perpetrated by criminal and terrorist groups;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of optimal coordination and cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in countering terrorism, with particular regard to the threat posed by the travel of foreign terrorist fighters, including those who return or relocate, and in strengthening international efforts to ensure that refugee status is not abused by the perpetrators, organizers and facilitators of terrorist acts, consistent with the obligations of Member States under international law, and in this context stresses the importance of information-sharing, as appropriate, including biometric data, which could encompass fingerprints and photographs, in order to increase the chances of the positive identification of terrorists and their affiliates, in addition to information from battlefields, counter-terrorism military operations and national prison systems, while respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, and also stresses the importance of Member States making full use of INTERPOL capabilities in this regard, notably the Stolen and Lost Travel Document Database, the Nominal Database, the Foreign Terrorist Fighter Criminal Analysis File, the Fingerprint Database, the DNA Profile Database and the facial recognition system, and of promoting international cooperation efforts to assist Member States, upon their request, in strengthening cooperation between their law enforcement agencies in order to bring suspected terrorists to justice;

3. *Also emphasizes* the importance of optimal coordination and cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL to create synergies within their respective mandates in the fight against transnational crime, in particular transnational organized crime;

4. *Reaffirms* the importance of close cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in the global fight against trafficking in persons, including through the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons, as well as any sexual exploitation, including of women and children, and in this context stresses the importance of Member States making use of readily available INTERPOL capabilities, such as the International Child Sexual Exploitation Database, the Stolen and Lost Travel Document Database, the Travel Documents Associated with Notices system and the Nominal Database, as well as the INTERPOL Human Trafficking Expert Group, and also stresses the importance of Member States enhancing their capability to fight such crimes using the training curricula facilitated by INTERPOL;

5. *Also reaffirms* the importance of close cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL to combat the smuggling of migrants, and in this context stresses the importance of Member States making use of readily available INTERPOL capabilities, including the Stolen and Lost Travel Document Database and the Nominal Database, as well as the INTERPOL Human Trafficking Expert Group;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of optimal cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL to provide, upon request, complementary support to peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts in accordance with existing mandates, including in assisting Member States in strengthening the national central bureaux of INTERPOL through training and technical assistance in order to fight transnational organized crime more effectively, and supporting the reinforcement of national police and other law enforcement agencies, as demonstrated by joint Department of Peacekeeping Operations and INTERPOL projects at United Nations peacekeeping missions;

7. *Encourages* the United Nations to take full advantage of the benefits of cooperation with INTERPOL, in accordance with their respective mandates and consistent with the national priorities of Member States, to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons and to implement the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects<sup>43</sup> and its International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons,<sup>42</sup> including through making use of the readily available INTERPOL capabilities to facilitate the tracing of weapons, notably the INTERPOL Illicit Arms Records and Tracing Management System, the INTERPOL Ballistic Information Network and the INTERPOL Firearms Reference Table;

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<sup>43</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects*, New York, 9–20 July 2001 (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.



8. *Encourages* increased cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL to assist Member States, upon their request, in effectively using the following resources readily available to Member States that are also member countries of INTERPOL, through their national central bureaux:

(a) The INTERPOL I-24/7 global police secure communications system, which enables authorized users to share sensitive and urgent police information with their counterparts around the globe;

(b) INTERPOL databases, by populating, updating and querying them, as appropriate, with a view to sharing accurate information between Member States in a timely manner in accordance with INTERPOL rules and regulations, in full respect of national sovereignty and operational priorities, through full access to them;

(c) Publication of INTERPOL notices and diffusions to alert, request assistance from and provide assistance to law enforcement agencies of other Member States;

(d) Criminal information analysis, namely, INTERPOL analytical products, to support national operational activities and investigations by sharing information with INTERPOL for inclusion in the INTERPOL Criminal Analysis Files;

(e) INTERPOL support for the operations of the law enforcement agencies of Member States as well as training and capacity-building programmes and initiatives designed to improve national police capabilities;

9. *Acknowledges* the importance of extending real-time access to the I-24/7 global police secure communications system from the national central bureaux of Member States that are also member countries of INTERPOL to their other national law enforcement entities at strategic locations, such as border crossings, airports and customs and immigration posts, with a view to increasing the security of their borders by implementing INTERPOL technical solutions, inter alia, by integrating the most recent versions of the Fixed INTERPOL Network Database into border crossing points and systematically and automatically checking all incoming and outgoing travellers and conducting anticipated checks through advance passenger information and passenger name records mechanisms, thereby promoting increased cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations”, the sub-item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)”.

## RESOLUTION 73/12

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 26 November 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.22](#) and [A/73/L.22/Add.1](#), as orally revised, sponsored by: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey

### **73/12. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization**

*The General Assembly,*

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>44</sup>

*Taking note also* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization,<sup>45</sup>

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<sup>44</sup> [A/73/328-S/2018/592](#), sect. III.

<sup>45</sup> See [A/73/111](#).

*Noting with appreciation* the establishment of the New York liaison mechanism between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization in June 2017,

*Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations”, the sub-item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization”.

### **RESOLUTION 73/13**

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 26 November 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.25](#) and [A/73/L.25/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Albania, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, China, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Sudan, Turkey

#### **73/13. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution [54/5](#) of 8 October 1999, by which it granted observer status to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, as well as its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, including resolution [71/18](#) of 21 November 2016,

*Recalling also* that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social or humanitarian nature,

*Recalling further* the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming* its resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, and its resolution [69/313](#) of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,

*Recalling* its Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security of 9 December 1994,<sup>46</sup>

*Recognizing* that any dispute or conflict in the region impedes cooperation, and stressing the need to solve such a dispute or conflict on the basis of the norms and principles of international law,

*Convinced* that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution [71/18](#),<sup>47</sup>

1. *Recalls* the declaration adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization on the occasion of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary Summit of the Organization, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 22 May 2017;

2. *Reiterates* the conviction that multilateral economic cooperation contributes to enhancing peace, stability and security to the benefit of the wider Black Sea area;

3. *Welcomes* the ongoing commitment of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to the implementation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Agenda, “Towards an enhanced Black Sea Economic Cooperation Partnership”, endorsed by the Heads of State and Government of the States members of the Organization at its Twentieth Anniversary Summit, held in Istanbul, in which the member States had reiterated their commitment to enhancing the economic mission and the project-oriented vision of the Organization;

4. *Also welcomes* the joint statement of the Speakers of the Parliaments of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation member States on the occasion of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary Summit of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, held in Istanbul on 16 May 2018;

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<sup>46</sup> Resolution [49/57](#), annex.

<sup>47</sup> See [A/73/328-S/2018/592](#), sect. II.

5. *Values* the activities of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization aimed at strengthening regional cooperation in such fields as energy, including renewable energy and energy efficiency, transport, institutional renewal and good governance, trade and economic development, banking and finance, environmental protection, sustainable development and entrepreneurship, communications, agriculture and agro-industry, health care and pharmaceuticals, culture, education, youth and sports, tourism, science and technology, exchange of statistical data and economic information, collaboration among customs authorities and combating organized crime and trafficking in drugs, weapons and radioactive material, acts of terrorism and illegal migration and in other related spheres;

6. *Welcomes* the reform efforts within the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization aimed at increasing its efficiency and effectiveness;

7. *Also welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to elaborate and implement concrete joint regional projects, particularly in the field of transport, which will contribute to the development of Euro-Asian transport links, and recalls, within this framework, the Memorandum of Understanding for the Coordinated Development of the Black Sea Ring Highway, the Memorandum of Understanding on the Development of Motorways of the Sea in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization Region and the Memorandum of Understanding on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization Region;

8. *Further welcomes* the adoption of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization Green Energy Strategy, which affords States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization new opportunities with regard to the elaboration and adoption of their green energy policies and the strengthening of regional cooperation in the field of green energy, endorsed at the thirty-eighth meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, held in Yerevan on 27 June 2018;

9. *Notes* the activities undertaken by the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization Green Energy Network with regard to exchanging information, sharing experiences and good practices, elaborating and implementing regional energy efficiency projects and promoting investments in green energy in the Black Sea region;

10. *Also notes* the activities aimed at developing effective policies and concrete measures to support the sustainable development of small and medium-sized enterprises in the Black Sea region and to help them to improve their quality performance through, inter alia, the assistance of the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank;

11. *Calls for* greater cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and international financial institutions, and welcomes the contacts between the Organization and the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, the Silk Road Fund and other financial institutions with a view to exploring the possibility of co-financing projects in the wider Black Sea area that are economically prudent and within their respective mandates;

12. *Acknowledges* the interest of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>48</sup> bearing in mind the importance of the regional and subregional dimensions, regional economic integration and interconnectivity in sustainable development and that regional and subregional frameworks can facilitate the effective translation of sustainable development policies into concrete action at the national level;

13. *Notes* the ongoing contributions of the related bodies of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, namely, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Business Council, the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank and the International Centre for Black Sea Studies, to the strengthening of multifaceted regional cooperation in the region;

14. *Welcomes* the ongoing commitment of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to promoting fruitful cooperation with the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, in particular to developing practical and goal-oriented projects, in areas of common interest, as reiterated in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Agenda, “Towards an Enhanced Black Sea Economic Cooperation Partnership”, endorsed at the Twentieth Anniversary Summit of the Organization;

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<sup>48</sup> Resolution 70/1.

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15. *Also welcomes* the ongoing cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic Commission for Europe, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Organization for Migration, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the World Health Organization, the World Tourism Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as well as the working contacts of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization with the World Bank aimed at promoting sustainable development in the Black Sea region;

16. *Further welcomes* the efforts of the Permanent International Secretariat of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in strengthening its project-oriented dimension by further enhancing the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Project Development Fund and the capacities of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Project Management Unit;

17. *Takes note* of the establishment of the Black Sea Project Promotion Facility and the effective start of its operations in support of regional projects in the fields of renewable energy, energy efficiency, green technologies, the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, the advancement of the knowledge economy, capacity-building and the promotion of the export potential of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization;

18. *Notes* the willingness of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to continue to implement sustainable development strategies based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs and economic activities and to encourage measures to rehabilitate, protect and preserve the environment in the Black Sea region, and in this regard welcomes its cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme and the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution;

19. *Also notes* the ongoing cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and within this framework welcomes the positive results of the ongoing joint project to strengthen the criminal justice response to trafficking in persons in the Black Sea region;

20. *Welcomes* the ongoing multifaceted and fruitful cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the Economic Commission for Europe, especially in the area of transport, within the framework of the Cooperation Agreement signed by the two organizations;

21. *Encourages* the full implementation of the Cooperation Agreement between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme of 20 February 2002 and the Relationship Agreement between the Organization and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization;

22. *Notes* that the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization is a member of the Group of Friends of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, and welcomes the commitment to broaden cooperation in the accomplishment of the mission of the Alliance, as established by the Secretary-General, and in the promotion of understanding and reconciliation among cultures, globally and regionally, as set out in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, which was approved in Bucharest and signed in Baku;

23. *Appreciates* the endeavours of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in enhancing project-oriented cooperation with the European Union in a balanced and mutually beneficial way;

24. *Takes note* of the cooperation established between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and other regional organizations and initiatives, and in this regard encourages the further development of cooperation with the regional organizations and integration unions concerned, in particular those in Eastern Europe and Central Asia;

25. *Invites* the Secretary-General to strengthen dialogue with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization with a view to promoting cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the two organizations;

26. *Invites* the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in order to continue joint projects and programmes with the Organization and its related bodies for the achievement of their objectives;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

28. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations”, the sub-item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization”.

### **RESOLUTION 73/14**

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 26 November 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.26/Rev.1](#), sponsored by: Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine

#### **73/14. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [58/85](#) of 9 December 2003, [67/109](#) of 17 December 2012, [69/271](#) of 2 April 2015 and [71/15](#) of 21 November 2016 and its decision 71/556 of 8 September 2017,

*Recalling also* that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of a political, economic, social, cultural or humanitarian nature,

*Referring to* Security Council resolution [1631 \(2005\)](#) of 17 October 2005, in which the Council recalled its invitation to regional organizations to improve coordination with the United Nations and the Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security, adopted by the General Assembly on 9 December 1994,<sup>49</sup>

*Acknowledging* the efforts of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM to develop partnership relations with the United Nations and its Member States, based on the principles of sovereign equality, mutual respect and mutually beneficial cooperation, as well as on the commitment to democratic values, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Convinced* that further developing cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM will further contribute to the promotion of the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>50</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the activity of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM aimed at promoting regional cooperation in various areas such as trade and economic development, energy, transportation, agriculture, disaster management, culture, science, education, public health, youth, tourism and sport, as well as countering terrorism, drug trafficking, organized crime, human trafficking, illegal migration and other types of criminal activity of a transnational nature, which contributes to the attainment of the purposes and principles of the United Nations, and to that end welcomes the intention of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM to cooperate with the Economic Commission for Europe and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of strengthening dialogue, cooperation and coordination between the United Nations system and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM, and to that end invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations to engage in regular consultations with the Secretary-General of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM, utilizing for that purpose the appropriate inter-institutional forums and formats, including the annual consultations between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the heads of regional organizations;

3. *Invites* the specialized agencies, components, organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system to cooperate and develop direct contacts with the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM for the joint implementation of projects aimed at the attainment of common objectives, and in that context

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<sup>49</sup> Resolution [49/57](#), annex.

<sup>50</sup> See [A/73/328-S/2018/592](#), sect. II.

takes note of the existing practice of cooperation between the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations”, the sub-item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM”.

### **RESOLUTION 73/15**

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 26 November 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.27](#) and [A/73/L.27/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

#### **73/15. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Agreement between the Council of Europe and the Secretariat of the United Nations signed on 15 December 1951 and the Arrangement on Cooperation and Liaison between the Secretariats of the United Nations and the Council of Europe of 19 November 1971,

*Recalling also* its resolution [44/6](#) of 17 October 1989, in which it granted the Council of Europe a standing invitation to participate as an observer in its sessions and work, as well as its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe,

*Acknowledging* the contribution of the Council of Europe, which will celebrate its seventieth anniversary in 2019, to the protection and strengthening of human rights and fundamental freedoms, democracy and the rule of law through its standards, principles and monitoring mechanisms, as well as to the effective implementation of relevant international legal instruments of the United Nations,

*Acknowledging also* the contribution of the Council of Europe to the development of international law, and noting the openness of the Council of Europe to the participation of States of other regions in its legal instruments,

*Welcoming* the role of the Council of Europe in building a united Europe without dividing lines, and the contribution of the Council of Europe to cohesion, stability and security in Europe,

*Commending* the increasing contribution of the Council of Europe, including at the parliamentary level, to democratic transition in its neighbouring regions aimed at promoting democratic institutions and procedures, and welcoming the readiness of the Council of Europe to further share its experience in democracy-building with interested countries on the basis of a demand-driven approach,

*Welcoming* the increasingly close relations between the United Nations and the Council of Europe, and commending the contribution of the Permanent Delegations of the Council of Europe to the United Nations Offices at Geneva and at Vienna to the enhancement of cooperation and the achievement of greater synergy between the United Nations and the Council of Europe,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe,<sup>51</sup>

1. *Welcomes* the contribution of the Council of Europe to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>52</sup> in Europe and beyond, while also recognizing the need for the United Nations and the

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<sup>51</sup> See [A/73/328-S/2018/592](#), sect. II.

<sup>52</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).



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Council of Europe to continue to work together, within their respective mandates, to accelerate the pace of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals towards achieving the 2030 Agenda;

2. *Reiterates its call for* the reinforcement of cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe regarding the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, the promotion of democracy and the rule of law and good governance at all levels, inter alia, the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the fight against terrorism, trafficking in human beings and violence against women, the fight against all forms of racism, discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance, the promotion of freedom of expression and freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, the protection of the rights and dignity of all members of society without discrimination on any grounds and the promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women and girls, as well as the promotion of human rights education;

3. *Confirms its recognition* of the key role of the European Court of Human Rights in ensuring effective human rights protection under the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms for the more than 800 million persons in the 47 States members of the Council of Europe, and notes with interest the efforts to guarantee the long-term effectiveness of the Convention system and to ensure the rapid and effective execution of Court judgments, as well as to accelerate the accession of the European Union to the Convention;

4. *Recognizes* the important role of the Council of Europe in upholding the rule of law and fighting impunity, including by strengthening the capacity of the national judiciaries of its member States to carry out their work consistent with the relevant international obligations of the member States in particular, and where applicable, those defined in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;<sup>53</sup>

5. *Also recognizes* the valuable role of the Council of Europe in advising and assisting States with regard to upholding constitutional and fundamental laws respecting human rights, democracy and the rule of law principles, including through its European Commission for Democracy through Law, noting in this context the cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe;

6. *Further recognizes* the role of the revised European Social Charter and of the European Committee of Social Rights in protecting economic and social rights, notes in this context the cooperation between the Council of Europe and the International Labour Organization, notes also the contribution that the Council of Europe can make in ensuring the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>54</sup> notes in this regard the Council of Europe Strategy on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2017–2023, confirms its support for cooperation between the two organizations with respect to the eradication of poverty, the protection and promotion of the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, including persons with disabilities in sport, strengthening social cohesion and intergenerational solidarity and ensuring the protection of economic, social and cultural rights for all, and encourages further cooperation between the Council of Europe and the World Health Organization, including the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe;

7. *Notes* the effective implementation of the joint declaration on the reinforcement of cooperation between the secretariat of the Council of Europe and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and in this respect encourages further cooperation between the United Nations, including the Human Rights Council, its special procedures, the Office of the High Commissioner and the human rights treaty bodies, and the Council of Europe, along with its Commissioner for Human Rights, with regard to promoting and ensuring respect for human rights and the role of human rights defenders;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the Council of Europe to the enhancement of cooperation between international and regional mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights, and in this context welcomes, in particular, the contribution of the Council of Europe to the universal periodic review regarding the situation of human rights in States members of the Council of Europe;

9. *Encourages* further cooperation, where appropriate, between the United Nations and the Council of Europe through their mechanisms on the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

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<sup>53</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

<sup>54</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

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10. *Encourages* the Council of Europe to continue cooperation with the United Nations in the fight against trafficking in persons, including in the context of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons, recalls that the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings is open for accession by all States, and notes with interest the results of the monitoring activities carried out by the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings and by the Committee of the Parties to the Convention;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs, as a follow-up to the joint Council of Europe/United Nations study on trafficking in organs, tissues and cells and trafficking in human beings for the purpose of the removal of organs, encourages further cooperation in this field, and recalls in this respect that the Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs is open for accession by all States;

12. *Also notes with appreciation* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe in the field of bioethics, in particular through the participation of the Council of Europe as an associate member in the Inter-Agency Committee on Bioethics, and encourages the enhancing of this cooperation, taking into account scientific and technological breakthroughs such as artificial intelligence and genetic engineering;

13. *Welcomes and encourages* the enhancing of the close collaboration among the United Nations Children's Fund, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Council of Europe to protect and promote the rights of the child, takes note of the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2016–2021), launched in Sofia, promoting the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>55</sup> in its member States, recalls in this context that the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse is open for accession by all States, and also in this context takes note of the “Start to talk” initiative launched by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on 5 April 2018, which is a call to action to public authorities and the sport movement to take the necessary prevention and protection measures to stop child sexual abuse;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the commitments of the Council of Europe in the field of protection of persons belonging to national minorities; recognizes the important contribution of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, in the 20 years since their entry into force, in protecting persons belonging to national minorities, as well as the paramount importance of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities;<sup>56</sup> welcomes the reinforced action of the Council of Europe to promote the social inclusion and respect for human rights of the Roma, and encourages further cooperation among the United Nations, the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on minority issues and the Council of Europe in these fields;

15. *Welcomes* the regular and active contribution of the Council of Europe to the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and the agreed and specified cooperation between the Council of Europe and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), which includes support to member States, upon their request, in implementing commitments on gender equality and women's human rights, in particular access to justice and women's political participation, and the promotion of the Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy, takes note of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, which is open for accession by all States, in this context encourages the above-mentioned bodies to continue to develop a fruitful collaboration in eliminating violence against women, including with the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on violence against women, its causes and consequences, and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, and the achievement of de facto gender equality, and recognizes the important contribution of the Convention in eradicating this scourge;

16. *Encourages* continuing cooperation between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Council of Europe, including the Council of Europe Development Bank, in particular in the protection and promotion of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons, as enshrined in the European Convention on Human Rights, and in the prevention and reduction of statelessness, in this context welcomes the contribution of the Council of Europe to the ongoing work on the

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<sup>55</sup> Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>56</sup> Resolution 47/135, annex.



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implementation of the global compact on refugees and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration following the adoption of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants<sup>57</sup> in 2016, and encourages activities identifying durable solutions for refugees, including the facilitation of integration through education and the creation of employment opportunities, in this context notes with interest the results of the activities of the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on Migration and Refugees, welcomes the Council of Europe Action Plan on Protecting Refugee and Migrant Children in Europe (2017–2019), and recognizes the importance of the interface offered by the presence at the Council of Europe of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Representation to the European Institutions in Strasbourg, as well as by the Permanent Delegation of the Council of Europe to the United Nations Office at Geneva;

17. *Recognizes and encourages* the continuing close liaison and fruitful cooperation between United Nations missions and the Council of Europe offices in the field;

18. *Encourages* further cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe in the area of democracy and good governance, including through active participation in the Strasbourg World Forum for Democracy and engagement with members of parliaments, youth representatives and civil society, as appropriate, and the strengthening of the links between the Council of Europe European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals and relevant United Nations agencies, as well as between the World Programme for Human Rights Education and the Council of Europe programme on education for democracy, and in this context welcomes the contribution to the activities of the International Contact Group on Citizenship and Human Rights Education;

19. *Notes* the important role of the United Nations Development Programme and the Council of Europe in supporting good local democratic governance, as well as the fruitful cooperation between them, encourages further deepening of the cooperation in this field, and calls for enhanced cooperation between the Council of Europe and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in the field of sustainable urban governance, in particular also through the Council of Europe Conference of Ministers Responsible for Spatial/Regional Planning;

20. *Also notes* the cooperation between the European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement of the Council of Europe and the United Nations, in particular the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and further notes the cooperation between the Council of Europe and the United Nations in the field of nature, in particular on the basis of the enhanced memorandum of cooperation between the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats;

21. *Further notes* the contribution of the Council of Europe in protecting and promoting all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to freedom of expression and opinion and the freedom of the media, including through the Council of Europe platform to promote the protection of journalism and the safety of journalists, and encourages further cooperation between the Council of Europe and the United Nations in this regard, in particular with regard to the implementation of the United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity;

22. *Reaffirms* that, as the information society and the Internet develop, the rights to privacy and freedom of expression, as set out in articles 17 and 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>58</sup> must be protected and respected, including as they relate to data protection, while recognizing lawful restrictions as set out in national legislation in accordance with international human rights law, in this context acknowledges the importance of the work of the Council of Europe in protecting those rights and in the fight against hate speech online and offline, welcomes and encourages the cooperation between relevant United Nations agencies and special procedures of the Human Rights Council, including the Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy, and the Council of Europe, most notably with regard to the follow-up to General Assembly resolution 70/125 of 16 December 2015 on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, in particular in promoting greater multi-stakeholder participation and engagement in dialogue on Internet governance at the global, regional and national levels, and takes note of the Council of Europe Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data, which is open for accession by all States;

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<sup>57</sup> Resolution 71/1.

<sup>58</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

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23. *Welcomes and encourages* the close cooperation between the two organizations in the fight against transnational organized crime, cybercrime, terrorism and money-laundering, as well as in the protection of the rights of victims of such crimes, and recalls that the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime and the Additional Protocol thereto, concerning the criminalization of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems, the new Council of Europe Convention on Offences relating to Cultural Property and the Council of Europe Convention on the Counterfeiting of Medical Products and Similar Crimes Involving Threats to Public Health, as well as several other relevant Council of Europe conventions, are open for accession by all States;

24. *Welcomes and supports* the cooperation and enhanced synergies between the respective mechanisms concerning the prevention of and the fight against corruption, notably by reviewing and mutually reinforcing the implementation of international anti-corruption standards;

25. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Council of Europe to the promotion of the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy<sup>59</sup> and the collaboration between their respective mechanisms regarding the fight against terrorism, including the financing of terrorism, in full respect of human rights and the rule of law, acknowledges the contribution of the Council of Europe to the implementation of Security Council resolution [2178 \(2014\)](#) of 24 September 2014 on threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts through the Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism and through the recommendation of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to its member States of 4 April 2018 on terrorists acting alone, as well as through the updated recommendation of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to its member States of 5 July 2017 on “special investigation techniques” in relation to serious crimes, including acts of terrorism, and the Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2018–2022), and recalls that the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism, including its Additional Protocol, and the Council of Europe Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism are open for accession by all States;

26. *Also welcomes* the continued cooperation of the Council of Europe, where appropriate and in accordance with international drug control conventions, with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board in the fight against drug abuse and drug trafficking, notes the role played by the Pompidou Group in this regard, and encourages further cooperation in the light of the recommendations made at the 2016 special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem;<sup>60</sup>

27. *Further welcomes* the contribution of the Council of Europe to the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly and the International Law Commission;

28. *Notes* the cooperation established between the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and the Council of Europe following their signature of a memorandum of understanding on 29 September 2008 and the accession of the Alliance of Civilizations to the Faro Platform, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Alliance of Civilizations on the one hand, and the Council of Europe and its North-South Centre on the other, to pursue their developing and fruitful collaboration in the fields of intercultural dialogue and global development education;

29. *Also notes* the cooperation between the Council of Europe and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the field of education, and encourages the extension of this cooperation, which should continue to focus on the role of education in developing just and humane societies characterized by the participation of individuals and the ability of individuals and societies to conduct intercultural dialogue, as well as on the encouragement of the diversity of cultural expressions;

30. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the Council of Europe, the Office of the Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Development Programme, and encourages further cooperation to promote and implement the World Programme of Action for Youth;<sup>61</sup>

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<sup>59</sup> Resolution [60/288](#).

<sup>60</sup> See resolution [S-30/1](#), annex.

<sup>61</sup> Resolution [50/81](#), annex, and resolution [62/126](#), annex.

31. *Notes* the cooperation between the Council of Europe and the World Tourism Organization, in particular on the basis of the memorandum of cooperation between the World Tourism Organization and the Council of Europe of 3 September 2016;

32. *Welcomes* the cooperation among the Council of Europe, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to promote integrity and inclusiveness through sport, encourages those organizations to continue their cooperation to support the implementation of the Kazan Action Plan of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, adopted in July 2017, to set up the International Partnership against Corruption in Sport and to promote States' commitments to international conventions relevant for sport, and recalls that the Anti-Doping Convention of the Council of Europe, the Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions and the Council of Europe Convention on an Integrated Safety, Security and Service Approach at Football Matches and Other Sports Events are open for accession by all States;

33. *Invites* the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and the Council of Europe to combine their efforts in seeking answers to global challenges, within their respective mandates, and calls upon all relevant United Nations bodies to support the enhancement of cooperation with the Council of Europe, as set out in relevant resolutions;

34. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe in the implementation of the present resolution.

## **RESOLUTION 73/16**

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 26 November 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.28](#), sponsored by: Belarus, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

### **73/16. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States**

*The General Assembly,*

*Referring* to the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage measures for regional cooperation to advance the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Referring also* to its resolution [48/237](#) of 24 March 1994, by which it granted the Commonwealth of Independent States observer status in the General Assembly,

*Welcoming* the efforts of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States to attain objectives consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming* that achieving international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character is one of the purposes of the United Nations,

*Referring* to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolution [1631 \(2005\)](#) of 17 October 2005, as well as statements by the President of the Council, including the statement of 13 January 2010,<sup>62</sup> in which the Council emphasized the importance of developing effective partnerships between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, in accordance with the Charter,

*Welcoming* the commitment of the Commonwealth of Independent States to intensify and deepen its cooperation with the agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system,

*Convinced* that strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States will advance the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

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<sup>62</sup> [S/PRST/2010/1](#); see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2009–31 July 2010* ([S/INF/65](#)).

1. *Notes* the activities of the Commonwealth of Independent States to strengthen regional cooperation in such areas as trade and economic development; exchange of statistical data and economic information; culture; education; health care; sports; tourism; science and innovation; environmental protection and response to natural and man-made disasters; combating organized crime, illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, terrorist acts, manifestations of extremism and illegal migration; and other related areas;
2. *Also notes* the importance of strengthening cooperation and coordination between the United Nations system and the Commonwealth of Independent States, and invites the Secretary-General to hold for that purpose regular consultations with the Chair of the Executive Committee and Executive Secretary of the Commonwealth, making use of appropriate inter-agency forums and formats, including consultations between the Secretary-General and the heads of regional organizations;
3. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system, as well as international financial institutions, to develop their cooperation with the Commonwealth of Independent States;
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;
5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations”, the sub-item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States”.

#### **RESOLUTION 73/17**

Adopted at the 40th plenary meeting, on 26 November 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.20](#) and [A/73/L.20/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Guatemala, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Norway, Panama, Peru, Republic of Korea, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

#### **73/17. Impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets**

*The General Assembly,*

*Considering* that technological change includes new and powerful tools that can help to realize the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>63</sup> mindful that the impact, opportunities and challenges of rapid technological change on sustainable development are being assessed in order to deepen their understanding, and recalling its resolution [72/242](#) of 22 December 2017, in which it decided to continue discussing the topic “Impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals”,

*Recalling* its resolutions [69/313](#) of 27 July 2015 and [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, in which it established and launched a Technology Facilitation Mechanism to support the Sustainable Development Goals, whose initial findings on this topic, as well as those of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, were presented and discussed at its third multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Welcoming* resolution [72/305](#) of 23 July 2018 that mandated the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council to consider future trends and scenarios related to the Council theme and the long-term impact of current trends, such as the contribution of new technologies on the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Recognizing* that the spread of information and communications technology and global interconnectedness has great potential to accelerate human progress, to bridge the digital divide and to develop knowledge societies, as does scientific and technological innovation across areas as diverse as medicine and energy,

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<sup>63</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

*Recognizing also* that technological change has enormous potential to support the advancement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by providing them with opportunities to obtain and share information, gain access to educational and health services, generate income, engage in networking and have their voices heard,

*Recalling* its resolutions [72/200](#) and [72/228](#) of 20 December 2017 and other relevant resolutions, including Economic and Social Council resolution [2018/29](#) of 24 July 2018 on science, technology and innovation for development, and noting the developments in the work on emerging technologies by several United Nations system entities,

*Bearing in mind* the reference to the critical role of science, technology and innovation in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and to new technologies in the ministerial declaration of the 2018 high-level political forum on sustainable development,<sup>64</sup> welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on harnessing new technologies to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>65</sup> which was discussed at the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council, and noting the Secretary-General's strategy on new technologies,

*Noting* the meeting convened by the President of the General Assembly on 18 October 2018 on the impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the plenary meeting held thereafter,

*Recognizing* the need for Governments, the private sector, international organizations, civil society, the technical and academic communities and all relevant stakeholders to be aware of the impact of the latest developments in rapid technological change on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, which continue to require international and multi-stakeholder cooperation in order to benefit from opportunities and address challenges in this regard, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development, and respecting national policies and priorities, and welcoming in this regard the launch by the Secretary-General of a high-level panel on digital cooperation that will present its recommendations for effective and inclusive systems of digital cooperation among all relevant actors in the digital space, in 2019, and also welcoming the operationalization of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries in Turkey, by which the first Sustainable Development Goal target, target 17.8, has been achieved,

1. *Encourages* Member States to continue to consider the impact of key rapid technological changes on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets<sup>63</sup> in order to benefit from opportunities and address challenges, promote the development of national strategies and public policies, science, technology and innovation road maps, capacity-building and scientific engagement, and share best practices;

2. *Requests* the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, through the Economic and Social Council, to continue to consider, in a coordinated manner within their respective mandates and existing resources, the impact of key rapid technological changes, such as artificial intelligence, among others, on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, and to align this endeavour with the follow-up cycle of the high-level political forum on sustainable development in order to support the efforts of all countries towards the attainment of the Goals, including through forging partnerships with other relevant actors, organizations, initiatives and forums, and the dissemination of advances and best practices to facilitate cooperation towards this end;

3. *Also requests* the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, through the Economic and Social Council, to present their completed and updated findings on the impact of key rapid technological changes on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, with an evidence-based approach, at a session of its fourth multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, in 2019;

4. *Reiterates* the mandate of the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>66</sup> and encourages Member States and all stakeholders to consider its outcomes in

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<sup>64</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/73/3)*, chap. VI, sect. F.

<sup>65</sup> [E/2018/66](#).

<sup>66</sup> Resolution [70/1](#), para. 70.



relevant forums and to consider in the upcoming deliberation on the next cycle of evaluation of the high-level political forum on sustainable development the inclusion of the topic “Science, technology and innovation for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets” as a cross-cutting theme;

5. *Invites* the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Technology Facilitation Mechanism to strengthen synergies and mutually reinforce their work on science, technology and innovation, and requests the Secretariat to coordinate the dates of their meetings in order to avoid overlap and to ensure coherence and coordination between both entities;

6. *Invites* the Secretary-General to take into consideration the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and Commission on Science and Technology for Development findings and related reports in his report to the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council, and to bring to the attention of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination the importance for the diverse United Nations entities, including the United Nations Sustainable Development Group, to take into consideration this issue, within their respective mandates, bearing in mind the three dimensions and the integrated and indivisible nature of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets;

7. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to convene within existing resources a high-level thematic debate to take stock of progress on this topic at its seventy-fourth session, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session an item entitled “Impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets”, in order to discuss the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including the presentation of the work of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, unless otherwise agreed.

### **RESOLUTION 73/18**

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 30 November 2018, by a recorded vote of 100 to 12, with 62 abstentions,\* on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.31](#) and [A/73/L.31/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Gambia, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Yemen, State of Palestine

\* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Republic of Moldova, Solomon Islands, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Colombia, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu

#### **73/18. Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 3375 (XXX) and 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, [31/20](#) of 24 November 1976 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its emergency special sessions and its resolution [72/13](#) of 30 November 2017,

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*Recalling also* its resolution [58/292](#) of 6 May 2004,

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,<sup>67</sup>

*Recalling* the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides and the need for full compliance with those agreements,

*Affirming its support* for a comprehensive, just, lasting and peaceful settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session<sup>68</sup> and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,<sup>69</sup> endorsed by the Security Council in resolution [1515 \(2003\)](#) of 19 November 2003,

*Recalling* the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#) of 23 December 2016, and underscoring in this regard, inter alia, the call upon all parties to continue, in the interest of the promotion of peace and security, to exert collective efforts to launch credible negotiations on all final status issues in the Middle East peace process and within the time frame specified by the Quartet in its statement of 21 September 2010,

*Recalling also* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,<sup>70</sup> and recalling further its resolutions [ES-10/15](#) of 20 July 2004 and [ES-10/17](#) of 15 December 2006,

*Taking note* of the application of Palestine for admission to membership in the United Nations, submitted on 23 September 2011,<sup>71</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution [67/19](#) of 29 November 2012, by which, inter alia, Palestine was accorded non-member observer State status in the United Nations, and taking note of the follow-up report of the Secretary-General,<sup>72</sup>

*Taking note* of the accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law conventions, as well as other international treaties,

*Noting with deep regret* the passage of 51 years since the onset of the Israeli occupation and over 70 years since the adoption of resolution 181 (II) on 29 November 1947 and the Nakba without tangible progress towards a peaceful solution, and stressing the urgent need for efforts to reverse the negative trends on the ground and to restore a political horizon for advancing and accelerating meaningful negotiations aimed at the achievement of a peace agreement that will bring a complete end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and the resolution of all core final status issues, without exception, leading to a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive solution to the question of Palestine,

*Reaffirming* that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly, and takes note of its annual report,<sup>67</sup> including the conclusions and valuable recommendations contained in chapter VII thereof, inter alia, the recommendations for the redoubling of international efforts aimed at achieving a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, for an expanded multilateral framework for the revitalization of peace efforts and for efforts to ensure fullest accountability and implementation of the long-standing parameters for peace in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

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<sup>67</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 35 (A/73/35).*

<sup>68</sup> [A/56/1026-S/2002/932](#), annex II, resolution 14/221.

<sup>69</sup> [S/2003/529](#), annex.

<sup>70</sup> See [A/ES-10/273](#) and [A/ES-10/273/Corr.1](#).

<sup>71</sup> [A/66/371-S/2011/592](#), annex I.

<sup>72</sup> [A/67/738](#).

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2. *Requests* the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination, to support the achievement without delay of an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and of the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders and the just resolution of all final status issues and to mobilize international support for and assistance to the Palestinian people, and in this regard authorizes the Committee to make such adjustments in its approved programme of work as it may consider appropriate and necessary in the light of developments and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session and thereafter;

3. *Also requests* the Committee to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly, the Security Council or the Secretary-General, as appropriate;

4. *Further requests* the Committee to continue to extend its cooperation and support to Palestinian and other civil society organizations and to continue to involve additional civil society organizations and parliamentarians in its work in order to mobilize international solidarity and support for the Palestinian people, particularly during this critical period of political instability, humanitarian hardship and financial crisis, with the overall aim of promoting the achievement by the Palestinian people of their inalienable rights and a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative<sup>68</sup> and the Quartet road map,<sup>69</sup>

5. *Commends* the Committee on its efforts and activities in upholding its mandate, including through cooperative initiatives with Governments, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations;

6. *Commends* the Working Group of the Committee on its efforts in coordinating the efforts of international and regional civil society organizations regarding the question of Palestine;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine to continue to cooperate fully with the Committee and to make available to it, at its request, the relevant information and documentation that they have at their disposal;

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation and support to the Committee in the performance of its tasks, recalling its repeated call for all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their right to self-determination, including the right to their independent State of Palestine;

9. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to report to the General Assembly on the economic costs of the Israeli occupation for the Palestinian people, and, while drawing attention to the alarming findings, as reflected in the recent reports<sup>73</sup> in this regard, calls for the exertion of all efforts for the provision of the resources necessary to expedite the completion and publication of the report, including the facilitation and coordination of pertinent inputs from the relevant organs, bodies and agencies of the United Nations system;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the Committee to all the competent bodies of the United Nations, and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate;

11. *Requests* the Committee, bearing in mind the regrettable absence of tangible progress towards a peaceful solution, to continue to focus its activities throughout 2019 on efforts and initiatives to end the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and to organize activities in this regard, within existing resources and in cooperation with Governments, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations, aimed at raising international awareness and mobilizing diplomatic efforts to launch credible negotiations aimed at achieving without delay a just, lasting, comprehensive and peaceful solution to the question of Palestine in all its aspects;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the facilities necessary for the performance of its tasks.

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<sup>73</sup> [A/71/174](#) and [A/73/201](#).



## RESOLUTION 73/19

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 30 November 2018, by a recorded vote of 156 to 8, with 12 abstentions,\* on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.32](#) and [A/73/L.32/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Gambia, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Yemen, State of Palestine

\* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Israel, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Guatemala, Honduras, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, Togo, Tonga, Vanuatu

### 73/19. Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

*Recalling also* its resolution [58/292](#) of 6 May 2004,

*Recalling further* relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions [242 \(1967\)](#) of 22 November 1967, [338 \(1973\)](#) of 22 October 1973, [1397 \(2002\)](#) of 12 March 2002, [1515 \(2003\)](#) of 19 November 2003, [1544 \(2004\)](#) of 19 May 2004, [1850 \(2008\)](#) of 16 December 2008 and [2334 \(2016\)](#) of 23 December 2016,

*Recalling* the affirmation by the Security Council of the vision of a region where two States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side within secure and recognized borders,

*Expressing deep concern* that it has been over 70 years since the adoption of its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947 and 51 years since the occupation of Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, in 1967, and that a just, lasting and comprehensive solution to the question of Palestine has yet to be achieved,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to the request made in its resolution [72/14](#) of 30 November 2017,<sup>74</sup>

*Reaffirming* the permanent responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in accordance with international law and relevant resolutions,

*Recalling* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,<sup>75</sup> and recalling also its resolutions [ES-10/15](#) of 20 July 2004 and [ES-10/17](#) of 15 December 2006,

<sup>74</sup> [A/73/346-S/2018/597](#).

<sup>75</sup> See [A/ES-10/273](#) and [A/ES-10/273/Corr.1](#).

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*Convinced* that achieving a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of comprehensive and lasting peace and stability in the Middle East,

*Stressing* that the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples is among the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming* the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war,

*Reaffirming also* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,<sup>76</sup> to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

*Recalling* its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, and reiterating the importance of maintaining and strengthening international peace founded upon freedom, equality, justice and respect for fundamental human rights and of developing friendly relations among nations irrespective of their political, economic and social systems or the level of their development,

*Bearing in mind* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 16,

*Stressing* the urgent need for efforts to reverse the negative trends on the ground and to restore a political horizon for advancing and accelerating meaningful negotiations aimed at the achievement of a peace agreement that will bring a complete end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and the resolution of all core final status issues, without exception, leading to a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive solution to the question of Palestine,

*Reaffirming* the illegality of the Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem,

*Expressing grave concern* about the extremely detrimental impact of Israeli settlement policies, decisions and activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including on the contiguity, integrity and viability of the Territory, the viability of the two-State solution based on the pre-1967 borders and the efforts to advance a peaceful settlement in the Middle East,

*Expressing grave concern also* about all acts of violence, intimidation and provocation by Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians, including children, and properties, including homes, mosques, churches and agricultural lands, condemning acts of terror by several extremist Israeli settlers, and calling for accountability for the illegal actions perpetrated in this regard,

*Reaffirming* the illegality of Israeli actions aimed at changing the status of Jerusalem, including settlement construction and expansion, home demolitions, evictions of Palestinian residents, excavations in and around religious and historic sites, and all other unilateral measures aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the city and of the Territory as a whole, and demanding their immediate cessation,

*Expressing grave concern* about tensions, provocations and incitement regarding the holy places of Jerusalem, including the Haram al-Sharif, and urging restraint and respect for the sanctity of the holy sites by all sides,

*Reaffirming* that the construction by Israel, the occupying Power, of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and its associated regime are contrary to international law,

*Encouraging* all States and international organizations to continue to actively pursue policies to ensure respect for their obligations under international law with regard to all illegal Israeli practices and measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly Israeli settlements,

*Expressing deep concern* about the continuing Israeli policies of closures and severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, including medical and humanitarian and economic, via the imposition of prolonged closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade, as well as of checkpoints and a permit regime throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

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<sup>76</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

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*Expressing deep concern also* about the consequent negative impact of such policies on the contiguity of the Territory and the critical socioeconomic and humanitarian situation of the Palestinian people, which remains a disastrous humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip, as well as on the international efforts and the efforts of the Palestinian Government aimed at rehabilitating and developing the damaged Palestinian economy, including reviving the agricultural and productive sectors, and, while recalling Security Council resolution [1860 \(2009\)](#) of 8 January 2009, calling for the full lifting of restrictions on the movement and access of persons and goods, which are crucial for social and economic recovery,

*Recalling* the mutual recognition 25 years ago between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,<sup>77</sup> and stressing the urgent need for efforts to ensure full compliance with the agreements concluded between the two sides,

*Recalling also* the endorsement by the Security Council, in its resolution [1515 \(2003\)](#), of the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict<sup>78</sup> and the call in Council resolution [1850 \(2008\)](#) for the parties to fulfil their obligations under the road map and to refrain from any steps that could undermine confidence or prejudice the outcome of negotiations on a final peace settlement,

*Underscoring* the demand by the Security Council, most recently in its resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#), that Israel immediately and completely cease all settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and that it fully respect all its legal obligations in this regard,

*Recalling* the Arab Peace Initiative, adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002,<sup>79</sup> and stressing its importance in the efforts to achieve a just, lasting and comprehensive peace,

*Urging* renewed and coordinated efforts by the international community aimed at restoring a political horizon and advancing and accelerating the conclusion of a peace treaty to attain without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 by resolving all outstanding issues, including all core issues, without exception, for a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, in accordance with the internationally recognized basis of the two-State solution, and ultimately of the Arab-Israeli conflict as a whole for the realization of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East,

*Welcoming*, in this regard, all regional and international efforts aimed at promoting meaningful negotiations and achieving a two-State solution based on the pre-1967 borders and on the long-standing terms of reference, as called for in Security Council resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#),

*Taking note* of the report of the Quartet of 1 July 2016,<sup>80</sup> and stressing its recommendations as well as all its recent statements, in which, inter alia, grave concerns were expressed that current trends on the ground are steadily eroding the two-State solution and entrenching a one-State reality and in which recommendations were made to reverse those trends in order to advance the two-State solution on the ground and create the conditions for successful final status negotiations,

*Reiterating its support* for the convening of an international conference in Moscow, as envisioned by the Security Council in its resolution [1850 \(2008\)](#) and the Quartet statement of 23 September 2011, and stressing the importance of multilateral support and engagement for the advancement and acceleration of peace efforts towards the fulfilment of a just, lasting and comprehensive solution to the question of Palestine,

*Noting* the important contribution to peace efforts of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, including within the framework of the activities of the Quartet and with regard to the trilateral agreement and recent developments regarding the Gaza Strip,

*Welcoming* the ongoing efforts of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians, chaired by Norway, and noting its recent meeting at United Nations Headquarters, on

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<sup>77</sup> See [A/48/486-S/26560](#), annex.

<sup>78</sup> [S/2003/529](#), annex.

<sup>79</sup> [A/56/1026-S/2002/932](#), annex II, resolution 14/221.

<sup>80</sup> [S/2016/595](#), annex.

27 September 2018, and the ongoing efforts to generate sufficient donor support in this critical period for urgently addressing the immense humanitarian, reconstruction and recovery needs in the Gaza Strip, bearing in mind the detailed needs assessment and recovery framework for Gaza developed with the support of the United Nations, the World Bank and the European Union, and furthering Palestinian economic recovery and development,

*Recognizing* the efforts being undertaken by the Palestinian Government, with international support, to reform, develop and strengthen its institutions and infrastructure, emphasizing the need to preserve and further develop Palestinian institutions and infrastructure, despite the obstacles presented by the ongoing Israeli occupation, and commending in this regard the ongoing efforts to develop the institutions of an independent Palestinian State, including through the implementation of the Palestinian National Policy Agenda: National Priorities, Policies and Policy Interventions (2017–2022),

*Expressing concern* about the risks posed to the significant achievements made, as confirmed by the positive assessments made by international institutions regarding readiness for statehood, including by the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations and the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee, owing to the negative impact of the current instability and financial crisis being faced by the Palestinian Government and the continued absence of a credible political horizon,

*Recognizing* the positive contribution of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, which is aimed, inter alia, at enhancing development support and assistance to the Palestinian people and strengthening institutional capacity in line with Palestinian national priorities,

*Recalling* the ministerial meetings of the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development convened in Tokyo in February 2013 and Jakarta in March 2014 as a forum for the mobilization of political and economic assistance, including via exchanges of expertise and lessons learned, in support of Palestinian development, and encouraging the expansion of such efforts and support in the light of worsening socioeconomic indicators,

*Recognizing* the continued efforts and tangible progress made in the Palestinian security sector, noting the continued cooperation that benefits both Palestinians and Israelis, in particular by promoting security and building confidence, and expressing the hope that such progress will be extended to all major population centres,

*Recognizing also* that security measures alone cannot remedy the tensions, instability and violence, and calling for full respect for international law, including for the protection of civilian life, as well as for the promotion of human security, the de-escalation of the situation, the exercise of restraint, including from provocative actions and rhetoric, and the establishment of a stable environment conducive to the pursuit of peace,

*Gravely concerned* over the negative developments that have continued to occur in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including the escalation of violence and excessive use of force, resulting in a large number of deaths and injuries, mostly among Palestinian civilians, including children and women, as well as the continued construction and expansion of settlements and the wall, the arbitrary arrest and detention of Palestinian civilians, the acts of violence, vandalism and brutality committed against Palestinian civilians by Israeli settlers in the West Bank, the widespread destruction of public and private Palestinian property, including religious sites, and infrastructure and the demolition of homes, including if carried out as a means of collective punishment, the internal forced displacement of civilians, especially among the Bedouin community, and the consequent deterioration of the socioeconomic and humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian people,

*Deploring* the continuing negative repercussions of the conflicts in and around the Gaza Strip and the large number of Palestinian civilian casualties in the recent period, including among children, and any violations of international law, and calling for full respect for the relevant principles of international humanitarian and human rights law, including the principles of legality, distinction, precaution, limitation and proportionality, as well as the need for independent and transparent investigation into the use of force,

*Stressing* the need to ensure accountability for all violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law in order to end impunity, ensure justice, deter further violations, protect civilians and promote peace,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the safety, protection and well-being of all civilians in the whole Middle East region, stressing that Israel must respect the right to peaceful protest, and condemning all acts of violence and terror against civilians on both sides, including the firing of rockets by armed groups against Israeli civilian areas, resulting in loss of life and injury,

*Deploing* any actions that could provoke violence and endanger lives, and calling upon all actors to ensure that protests remain peaceful,

*Expressing grave concern* over the persisting disastrous humanitarian situation and socioeconomic conditions in the Gaza Strip as a result of the prolonged Israeli closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade, bearing in mind numerous United Nations agency reports, including the reports of the United Nations country team, and stressing that the situation is unsustainable and that urgent efforts are required to reverse the de-development trajectory in Gaza and respond adequately and immediately to the immense humanitarian needs of the civilian population,

*Recalling* the statement of the President of the Security Council of 28 July 2014,<sup>81</sup>

*Stressing* the need for calm and restraint by the parties, including by consolidating the ceasefire agreement of 26 August 2014, achieved under the auspices of Egypt, to avert the deterioration of the situation,

*Reiterating* the need for the full implementation by all parties of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) and General Assembly resolution ES-10/18 of 16 January 2009,

*Stressing* that a durable ceasefire agreement must lead to a fundamental improvement in the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, including through the sustained and regular opening of crossing points, and ensure the safety and well-being of civilians on both sides,

*Expressing grave concern* about the imprisonment and detention by Israel of thousands of Palestinians, including children, under harsh conditions, and all violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law that have occurred in this regard,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the safety, protection and well-being of all civilians in the whole Middle East region, and condemning all acts of violence and terror against civilians on both sides, including the firing of rockets,

*Stressing* the need for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilian population throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, consistent with the provisions and obligations of international humanitarian law, and taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the protection of the Palestinian civilian population,<sup>82</sup>

*Stressing also* the need to respect the right of peaceful assembly,

*Emphasizing* the need for respect for and the preservation of the territorial integrity and unity of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

*Affirming* the need to support the Palestinian Government of national consensus, formed consistent with Palestine Liberation Organization commitments and the Quartet principles, in its assumption of full government responsibilities in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, in all fields, as well as through its presence at Gaza's crossing points, welcoming in this regard the efforts of Egypt to facilitate and support Palestinian unity, and taking note of the Quartet statement of 28 September 2017,

*Stressing* the urgent need for sustained and active international involvement and for concerted initiatives to support the parties in building a climate for peace, to assist the parties in advancing and accelerating direct peace process negotiations for the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement that ends the occupation that began in 1967 and results in the independence of a democratic, contiguous and viable State of Palestine living side by side in peace and security with Israel and its other neighbours, on the basis of relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, the Quartet road map and the Arab Peace Initiative,

*Taking note* of the application of Palestine for admission to membership in the United Nations, submitted on 23 September 2011,<sup>83</sup>

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<sup>81</sup> [S/PRST/2014/13](#); see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013–31 July 2014 (S/INF/69)*.

<sup>82</sup> [A/ES-10/794](#).

<sup>83</sup> [A/66/371-S/2011/592](#), annex I.

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*Taking note also* of its resolution [67/19](#) of 29 November 2012, by which, inter alia, Palestine was accorded non-member observer State status in the United Nations, and taking note further of the follow-up report of the Secretary-General,<sup>84</sup>

*Acknowledging* the efforts being undertaken by civil society to promote a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine,

*Recalling* the findings by the International Court of Justice, in its advisory opinion, including on the urgent necessity for the United Nations as a whole to redouble its efforts to bring the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which continues to pose a threat to international peace and security, to a speedy conclusion, thereby establishing a just and lasting peace in the region,<sup>85</sup>

*Stressing* the urgency of achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967,

*Affirming once again* the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of achieving a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, in all its aspects, and of intensifying all efforts towards that end, and stresses in this regard the urgency of salvaging the prospects for realizing the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, based on the pre-1967 borders, and making tangible progress towards implementing that solution and justly resolving all final status issues;

2. *Calls for* the full implementation of Security Council resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#), and stresses, inter alia, the call upon all parties to continue, in the interest of the promotion of peace and security, to exert collective efforts to launch credible negotiations on all final status issues in the Middle East peace process and within the time frame specified by the Quartet in its statement of 21 September 2010;

3. *Calls once more for* the intensification of efforts by the parties, including through negotiations, with the support of the international community, towards the conclusion of a final peace settlement;

4. *Urges* in this regard the intensification and acceleration of renewed international and regional diplomatic efforts and support aimed at achieving, without delay, a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the Madrid terms of reference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative,<sup>79</sup> the Quartet road map<sup>78</sup> and an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967, and underscores in this regard the importance of the ongoing efforts, including by the European Union, the Russian Federation, the United Nations and the United States of America, as members of the Quartet, as well as efforts by the League of Arab States, Egypt, France, China and other concerned States and organizations;

5. *Stresses* the need for a resumption of negotiations based on the long-standing terms of reference and clear parameters and within a defined time frame aimed at expediting the realization of a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement;

6. *Calls for* the timely convening of an international conference in Moscow, as envisioned by the Security Council in its resolution [1850 \(2008\)](#), for the advancement and acceleration of the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement;

7. *Calls upon* both parties to act responsibly on the basis of international law and their previous agreements and obligations, in both their policies and actions, in order to, with the support of the Quartet and other interested parties, urgently reverse negative trends, including all measures taken on the ground that are contrary to international law, and create the conditions necessary for the launching of a credible political horizon and the advancement of peace efforts;

8. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, and to cease all of its measures that are contrary to international law and all

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<sup>84</sup> [A/67/738](#).

<sup>85</sup> [A/ES-10/273](#) and [A/ES-10/273/Corr.1](#), advisory opinion, para. 161.



## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

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unilateral actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, that are aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the Territory, including the confiscation and de facto annexation of land, and thus at prejudging the final outcome of peace negotiations, with a view to achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967;

9. *Stresses* the need, in particular, for an immediate halt to all actions contrary to international law that undermine trust and prejudice final status issues;

10. *Calls upon* the parties to observe calm and restraint and to refrain from provocative actions, incitement and inflammatory rhetoric, especially in areas of religious and cultural sensitivity, including in East Jerusalem, and calls for respect for the historic status quo at the holy places of Jerusalem, including the Haram al-Sharif, in word and in practice, and for immediate and serious efforts to defuse tensions;

11. *Stresses* the need for an immediate and complete cessation of all acts of violence, including military attacks, destruction and acts of terror;

12. *Underscores* the need for the parties to take confidence-building measures aimed at immediately improving the situation on the ground, promoting stability, building trust and fostering the peace process, and stresses the need, in particular, for an immediate halt to all settlement activities and home demolitions, ending violence and incitement and taking measures to address settler violence and ensure accountability, and for the further release of prisoners and an end to arbitrary arrests and detentions;

13. *Stresses* the need for the removal of checkpoints and other obstructions to the movement of persons and goods throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the need for respect for and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

14. *Reiterates its demand* for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009);

15. *Reiterates* the need for the full implementation by both parties of the Agreement on Movement and Access and of the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, of 15 November 2005, and the need, specifically, to allow for the sustained opening of all crossings into and out of the Gaza Strip for humanitarian supplies, movement and access of persons and goods, as well as for commercial flows, including exports, and economic recovery;

16. *Reiterates its demand* for the complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, calls for the full implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolution 2334 (2016), and for the consideration of measures of accountability, in accordance with international law, including without limitation in relation to the continued non-compliance with the demands for a complete and immediate cessation of all settlement activities, and stresses that compliance with and respect for international humanitarian law and international human rights law is a cornerstone of peace and security in the region;

17. *Underscores* in this regard the affirmation by the Security Council in its resolution 2334 (2016) that it will not recognize any changes to the 4 June 1967 lines, including with regard to Jerusalem, other than those agreed by the parties through negotiations, and its call upon States to distinguish in their relevant dealings between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied since 1967, as well as its determination to examine practical ways and means to secure the full implementation of its relevant resolutions;

18. *Reiterates* the need for Israel forthwith to abide by its road map obligation to freeze all settlement activity, including so-called “natural growth”, and to dismantle settlement outposts erected since March 2001;

19. *Calls for* the cessation of all provocations, including by Israeli settlers, in East Jerusalem, including in and around religious sites;

20. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations under international law, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice<sup>75</sup> and as demanded in the relevant General Assembly resolutions;

21. *Reaffirms its commitment*, in accordance with international law, to the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, based on the pre-1967 borders;

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### 22. *Calls for:*

- (a) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem;
- (b) The realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination and the right to their independent State;

23. *Stresses* the need for a just resolution of the problem of Palestine refugees in conformity with its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948;

24. *Calls upon* all States, consistent with their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and relevant Security Council resolutions, *inter alia*:

- (a) Not to recognize any changes to the pre-1967 borders, including with regard to Jerusalem, other than those agreed by the parties through negotiations;

- (b) To distinguish, in their relevant dealings, between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied since 1967;

- (c) Not to render aid or assistance to illegal settlement activities, including not to provide Israel with any assistance to be used specifically in connection with settlements in the occupied territories, in line with Security Council resolution 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980;

25. *Urges* Member States and the United Nations to continue and expedite the provision of economic, humanitarian and technical assistance to the Palestinian people and the Palestinian Government during this critical period in order to help to alleviate the serious humanitarian situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which is dire in the Gaza Strip, to rehabilitate the Palestinian economy and infrastructure and to support the development and strengthening of Palestinian institutions and Palestinian State-building efforts in preparation for independence;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the Security Council, including with regard to the reporting required pursuant to resolution 2334 (2016), towards the attainment of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine and the promotion of peace in the region and to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on these efforts and on developments on this matter.

## RESOLUTION 73/20

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 30 November 2018, by a recorded vote of 152 to 8, with 14 abstentions,\* on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.33](#) and [A/73/L.33/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Gambia, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, State of Palestine

\* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Guatemala, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, Central African Republic, Fiji, Honduras, Mexico, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Samoa, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Togo, Tonga, Vanuatu



**73/20. Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,<sup>86</sup>

*Taking note*, in particular, of the information contained in chapter VI of that report,

*Recalling* its resolution [72/12](#) of 30 November 2017,

*Convinced* that the worldwide dissemination of accurate and comprehensive information and the role of civil society organizations and institutions remain of vital importance in heightening awareness of and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination and independence, and for the efforts to achieve a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine,

*Recalling* the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides,

*Affirming its support* for a comprehensive, just, lasting and peaceful settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session,<sup>87</sup> and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,<sup>88</sup> endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution [1515 \(2003\)](#) of 19 November 2003,

*Recalling* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,<sup>89</sup>

*Taking note* of its resolution [67/19](#) of 29 November 2012,

*Reaffirming* that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in compliance with its resolution [72/12](#);

2. *Considers* that the special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department is very useful in raising the awareness of the international community concerning the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East and that the programme is contributing effectively to an atmosphere conducive to dialogue and supportive of peace efforts and should receive the necessary support for the fulfilment of its tasks;

3. *Requests* the Department, in full cooperation and coordination with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, to continue, with the necessary flexibility as may be required by developments affecting the question of Palestine, its special information programme for 2019–2020, in particular, inter alia:

(a) To disseminate information on all the activities of the United Nations system relating to the question of Palestine and peace efforts, including reports on the work carried out by the relevant United Nations organizations, as well as on the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy vis-à-vis the objective of peace;

(b) To continue to issue, update and modernize publications and audiovisual and online materials on the various aspects of the question of Palestine in all fields, including materials concerning relevant recent developments, in particular the efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine;

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<sup>86</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 35 (A/73/35).*

<sup>87</sup> [A/56/1026-S/2002/932](#), annex II, resolution 14/221.

<sup>88</sup> [S/2003/529](#), annex.

<sup>89</sup> See [A/ES-10/273](#) and [A/ES-10/273/Corr.1](#).

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(c) To expand its collection of audiovisual material on the question of Palestine, to continue the production and preservation of such material and to update, on a periodic basis, the public exhibit on the question of Palestine displayed in the General Assembly Building as well as at United Nations headquarters in Geneva and Vienna;

(d) To organize and promote fact-finding news missions for journalists to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel;

(e) To organize international, regional and national seminars or encounters for journalists aimed, in particular, at sensitizing public opinion to the question of Palestine and peace efforts and at enhancing dialogue and understanding between Palestinians and Israelis for the promotion of a peaceful settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including by fostering and encouraging the contribution of the media in support of peace between the two sides;

(f) To continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people in the field of media development, in particular through its annual training programme for Palestinian broadcasters and journalists;

4. *Encourages* the Department to continue organizing encounters for the media and representatives of civil society to engage in open and positive discussions to explore means for encouraging people-to-people dialogue and promoting peace and mutual understanding in the region.

### RESOLUTION 73/21

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 30 November 2018, by a recorded vote of 96 to 13, with 64 abstentions.\* on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.34](#) and [A/73/L.34/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Gambia, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Yemen, State of Palestine

\* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Israel, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Republic of Moldova, Solomon Islands, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Colombia, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu

#### 73/21. Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,<sup>90</sup>

*Taking note,* in particular, of the action taken by the Committee and the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat in accordance with their mandates,

<sup>90</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 35 (A/73/35).*

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Recalling its resolution 32/40 B of 2 December 1977 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including its resolution 72/11 of 30 November 2017,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with its resolution 72/11;
2. *Considers* that, by providing substantive support to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People in the implementation of its mandate, the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to make a constructive and positive contribution to raising international awareness of the question of Palestine and of the urgency of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine in all its aspects on the basis of international law and United Nations resolutions and the efforts being exerted in this regard and to generating international support for the rights of the Palestinian people;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division with the necessary resources and to ensure that it continues to effectively carry out its programme of work as detailed in relevant earlier resolutions, in consultation with the Committee and under its guidance;
4. *Requests* the Division, in particular, to continue to monitor developments relevant to the question of Palestine, to organize international meetings and activities in support of the Committee's mandate with the participation of all sectors of the international community and to ensure, within existing resources, the continued participation of eminent persons and international renowned experts in these meetings and activities, to be invited on a par with the members of the Committee, to liaise and cooperate with civil society and parliamentarians, including through the Working Group of the Committee, to develop and expand the "Question of Palestine" website and the documents collection of the United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine, to prepare and widely disseminate the publications listed in paragraph 81 of the report of the Committee,<sup>90</sup> in the relevant official languages of the United Nations, and information materials on various aspects of the question of Palestine and to develop and enhance the annual training programme for staff of the Palestinian Government in contribution to Palestinian capacity-building efforts;
5. *Also requests* the Division, as part of the observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on 29 November, to continue to organize, under the guidance of the Committee, an annual exhibit on Palestinian rights or a cultural event in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine to the United Nations, and encourages Member States to continue to give the widest support and publicity to the observance of the Day of Solidarity;
6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the continued cooperation with the Division of the United Nations system entities with programme components addressing various aspects of the question of Palestine and the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;
7. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Division in the performance of its tasks.

### RESOLUTION 73/22

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 30 November 2018, by a recorded vote of 148 to 11, with 14 abstentions,\* on the basis of draft resolution A/73/L.29 and A/73/L.29/Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Yemen, State of Palestine

\* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia,

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Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Guatemala, Israel, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Solomon Islands, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, Central African Republic, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Honduras, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Samoa, South Sudan, Togo, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

### 73/22. Jerusalem

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, in particular its provisions regarding the City of Jerusalem,

*Recalling also* its resolution [36/120 E](#) of 10 December 1981 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including resolution [56/31](#) of 3 December 2001, in which it, inter alia, determined that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, in particular the so-called “Basic Law” on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, were null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,

*Recalling further* the Security Council resolutions relevant to Jerusalem, including resolution [478 \(1980\)](#) of 20 August 1980, in which the Council, inter alia, decided not to recognize the “Basic Law” on Jerusalem,

*Recalling* Security Council resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#) of 23 December 2016, in which the Council affirmed that it would not recognize any changes to the 4 June 1967 lines, including with regard to Jerusalem, other than those agreed by the parties through negotiations,

*Recalling also* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,<sup>91</sup> and recalling further its resolution [ES-10/15](#) of 20 July 2004,

*Expressing its grave concern* about any action taken by any body, governmental or non-governmental, in violation of the above-mentioned resolutions,

*Expressing its grave concern also*, in particular, about the continuation by Israel, the occupying Power, of illegal settlement activities, including measures regarding the so-called E-1 plan, its construction of the wall in and around East Jerusalem, its restrictions on Palestinian access to and residence in East Jerusalem and the further isolation of the city from the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which are having a detrimental effect on the lives of Palestinians and could prejudice a final status agreement on Jerusalem,

*Expressing its grave concern further* about the continuing Israeli demolition of Palestinian homes and other civilian infrastructure in and around East Jerusalem, the revocation of residency rights, and the eviction and displacement of numerous Palestinian families from East Jerusalem neighbourhoods, including Bedouin families, as well as other acts of provocation and incitement, including by Israeli settlers, in the city, including desecration of mosques and churches,

*Expressing its concern* about the Israeli excavations undertaken in the Old City of Jerusalem, including in and around religious sites,

*Expressing its grave concern*, in particular, about tensions, provocations and incitement regarding the holy places of Jerusalem, including the Haram al-Sharif, and urging restraint and respect for the sanctity of the holy sites by all sides,

*Reaffirming* that the international community, through the United Nations, has a legitimate interest in the question of the City of Jerusalem and in the protection of the unique spiritual, religious and cultural dimensions of the city, as foreseen in relevant United Nations resolutions on this matter,

*Reaffirming also* the importance of the City of Jerusalem for the three monotheistic religions,

<sup>91</sup> See [A/ES-10/273](#) and [A/ES-10/273/Corr.1](#).

## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Middle East,<sup>92</sup>

1. *Reiterates its determination* that any actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem are illegal and therefore null and void and have no validity whatsoever, and calls upon Israel to immediately cease all such illegal and unilateral measures;
2. *Stresses* that a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the question of the City of Jerusalem should take into account the legitimate concerns of both the Palestinian and Israeli sides and should include internationally guaranteed provisions to ensure the freedom of religion and of conscience of its inhabitants, as well as permanent, free and unhindered access to the holy places by people of all religions and nationalities;
3. *Also stresses* the need for the parties to observe calm and restraint and to refrain from provocative actions, incitement and inflammatory rhetoric, especially in areas of religious and cultural sensitivity, and expresses its grave concern in particular about the recent series of negative incidents in East Jerusalem;
4. *Calls for* respect for the historic status quo at the holy places of Jerusalem, including the Haram al-Sharif, in word and in practice, and urges all sides to work immediately and cooperatively to defuse tensions and halt all provocations, incitement and violence at the holy sites in the City;
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

### RESOLUTION 73/23

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 30 November 2018, by a recorded vote of 99 to 10, with 66 abstentions,\* on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.30](#) and [A/73/L.30/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, State of Palestine

\* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Israel, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tuvalu, Ukraine, Vanuatu

#### 73/23. The Syrian Golan

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Middle East,<sup>93</sup>

*Recalling* Security Council resolution [497 \(1981\)](#) of 17 December 1981,

<sup>92</sup> [A/73/322/Rev.1](#).

<sup>93</sup> [A/73/322/Rev.1](#).



## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

*Reaffirming* the fundamental principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming once more* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,<sup>94</sup> to the occupied Syrian Golan,

*Deeply concerned* that Israel has not withdrawn from the Syrian Golan, which has been under occupation since 1967, contrary to the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions,

*Stressing* the illegality of the Israeli settlement construction and other activities in the occupied Syrian Golan since 1967,

*Noting with satisfaction* the convening in Madrid on 30 October 1991 of the Peace Conference on the Middle East, on the basis of Security Council resolutions [242 \(1967\)](#) of 22 November 1967, [338 \(1973\)](#) of 22 October 1973 and [425 \(1978\)](#) of 19 March 1978 and the formula of land for peace,

*Expressing grave concern* over the halt in the peace process on the Syrian track, and expressing the hope that peace talks will soon resume from the point they had reached,

1. *Declares* that Israel has failed so far to comply with Security Council resolution [497 \(1981\)](#);
2. *Also declares* that the Israeli decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void and has no validity whatsoever, as confirmed by the Security Council in its resolution [497 \(1981\)](#), and calls upon Israel to rescind it;
3. *Reaffirms its determination* that all relevant provisions of the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention of 1907, and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,<sup>94</sup> continue to apply to the Syrian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and calls upon the parties thereto to respect and ensure respect for their obligations under those instruments in all circumstances;
4. *Determines once more* that the continued occupation of the Syrian Golan and its de facto annexation constitute a stumbling block in the way of achieving a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region;
5. *Calls upon* Israel to resume the talks on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks and to respect the commitments and undertakings reached during the previous talks;
6. *Demands once more* that Israel withdraw from all the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967 in implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;
7. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned, the co-sponsors of the peace process and the entire international community to exert all the necessary efforts to ensure the resumption of the peace process and its success by implementing Security Council resolutions [242 \(1967\)](#) and [338 \(1973\)](#);
8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

### RESOLUTION 73/24

Adopted at the 44th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.36](#) and [A/73/L.36/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Viet Nam

<sup>94</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

**73/24. Sport as an enabler of sustainable development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 58/5 of 3 November 2003 and 59/10 of 27 October 2004, its decision to proclaim 2005 the International Year for Sport and Physical Education to strengthen sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace, and its resolutions 60/1 of 16 September 2005, 60/9 of 3 November 2005, 61/10 of 3 November 2006, 62/271 of 23 July 2008, 63/135 of 11 December 2008, 65/4 of 18 October 2010, 67/17 of 28 November 2012, 69/6 of 31 October 2014 and 71/160 of 16 December 2016,

*Recalling also* its resolution 67/296 of 23 August 2013, in which it proclaimed 6 April the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace,

*Recalling further* its resolution 72/6 of 13 November 2017 on building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal, and all of its previous resolutions on this matter,

*Recognizing* the contribution of sport to the realization of the Millennium Development Goals, as declared in its resolutions 60/1, and 65/1 of 22 September 2010,

*Recalling* that, in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>95</sup> inter alia, sport is recognized as an important enabler for sustainable development,

*Acknowledging* the importance of holistic approaches to health and well-being through regular physical activity, including sport and recreation, to prevent and control non-communicable diseases and promote healthy lifestyles, including through physical education, as reflected in the political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,<sup>96</sup>

*Recognizing* that sports, the arts and physical activity have the power to change perceptions, prejudices and behaviours, as well as to inspire people, break down racial and political barriers, combat discrimination and defuse conflict, as reflected in the political declaration adopted at the Nelson Mandela Peace Summit in 2018,<sup>97</sup>

*Recognizing also* the benefits of sport for the health of older persons, as outlined in the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,<sup>98</sup>

*Recalling* article 31 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>99</sup> outlining a child's right to play and leisure, and the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",<sup>100</sup> stressing the promotion of physical, mental and emotional health through play and sports,

*Recalling also* the political declaration<sup>101</sup> and outcome<sup>102</sup> adopted at the five-year review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action<sup>103</sup> and the commitments made therein to ensure equal opportunities for women and girls in recreational and sports activities, as well as in participation in athletics and physical activities at the national, regional and international levels, such as access, training, competition, remuneration and prizes,

*Recalling further* articles 1 and 30 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>104</sup> in which States parties recognized the right of persons with disabilities to take part on an equal basis with others in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport, and recognizing that the active involvement of persons with disabilities in sport contributes to the full and equal realization of their human rights, as well as respect for their inherent dignity,

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<sup>95</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>96</sup> Resolution 73/2.

<sup>97</sup> Resolution 73/1.

<sup>98</sup> *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

<sup>99</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>100</sup> Resolution S-27/2, annex.

<sup>101</sup> Resolution S-23/2, annex.

<sup>102</sup> Resolution S-23/3, annex.

<sup>103</sup> *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.

<sup>104</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

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*Acknowledging* the revised International Charter of Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport, as proclaimed by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-eighth session, in November 2015,<sup>105</sup> as well as the Declaration of Berlin and the Kazan Action Plan adopted at the fifth and sixth International Conferences of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport, held, respectively, in Berlin in May 2013 and in Kazan, Russian Federation, in July 2017,

*Recognizing* the important role played by the International Convention against Doping in Sport<sup>106</sup> in harmonizing the actions taken by Governments in the fight against doping in sport, which are complementary to those undertaken by the sporting movement under the World Anti-Doping Code of the World Anti-Doping Agency,

*Acknowledging* the recommendations contained in the report of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group entitled “Harnessing the power of sport for development and peace: recommendations to Governments”, and encouraging Member States to implement and further develop those recommendations,

*Recognizing* the need to strengthen and further coordinate efforts, including multi-stakeholder partnerships, at all levels to maximize the potential of sport to contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, and national peacebuilding and State-building priorities,

*Acknowledging* the major role of the United Nations system and its country programmes as well as the role of Member States in promoting human development through sport and physical education,

*Acknowledging also* the role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport and the International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport, including the declarations that it has adopted, in promoting the educational, cultural and social dimensions of sport and physical education, including in the context of the 2030 Agenda, and in forging commitments and recommendations in this regard,

*Recalling* the proclamation by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, at its thirty-eighth session, of 20 September as the International Day of University Sport,

*Recalling also* the role of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the opportunities that it provides within its mandate for the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, including in and through sport, and welcoming the continued advancement of women and girls in sports and sporting activities, in particular the support for their progressively higher participation in sport events, which provides opportunities for economic development through sports,

*Acknowledging* the Olympic Charter, and that any form of discrimination is incompatible with belonging to the Olympic movement,

*Welcoming* the memorandum of understanding signed between the International Olympic Committee and the United Nations in April 2014, in which a call was made to strengthen efforts around sport-based initiatives that encourage social and economic development, as well as to strengthen the many partnerships that United Nations organizations have established with the Committee,

*Affirming* the invaluable contribution of the Olympic and Paralympic movements in establishing sport as a unique means for the promotion of peace and development, in particular through the ideal of the Olympic Truce, acknowledging the opportunities provided by past Olympic and Paralympic Games, including those held in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, in 2018, as well as the Youth Olympic Games held in Buenos Aires in 2018, welcoming with appreciation all upcoming Olympic and Paralympic Games, in particular those to be held in Tokyo in 2020, in Beijing in 2022, in Paris in 2024 and in Los Angeles, United States of America, in 2028, as well as the Youth Olympic Games to be held in Lausanne, Switzerland, in 2020, and calling upon future hosts of such Games and other Member States to include sport, as appropriate, in conflict prevention activities and to ensure the effective implementation of the Olympic Truce during the Games,

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<sup>105</sup> United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-eighth Session, Paris, 3–18 November 2015*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, sect. IV, resolution 43.

<sup>106</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2419, No. 43649.



*Recognizing* the role that the Paralympic movement plays in showcasing the achievements of athletes with disabilities to a global audience and in acting as a primary vehicle to promote positive perceptions and greater inclusion of persons with disabilities in sport and society,

*Recognizing also* the importance of international, continental and regional sport events, such as the World Artistic Gymnastics Championships, the Special Olympics World Games, the Deaflympics, the World Indigenous Games, the European Games, the Games of La Francophonie, the Pan American Games and the Parapan American Games, the All Africa Games, the Asian Games, the Pacific Games, the Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games, the World Nomad Games, the Commonwealth Games and the Universiade, for promoting education, health, development, peace and solidarity among nations,

*Highlighting* the importance of continuing to reduce barriers to participation in sport events, particularly for participants from developing countries,

*Recognizing* that major international sport events should be organized in the spirit of peace, mutual understanding, friendship, tolerance and inadmissibility of discrimination of any kind and that the unifying and conciliative nature of such events should be respected,

*Reaffirming* the importance of Member States, including those that will host such Games and other sporting events in the future, as well as relevant sport-related organizations, federations and associations, as appropriate, enhancing measures to address the risks of corruption related to such events, and in this regard welcoming the conference on safeguarding sport from corruption, held in Vienna in June 2018,

*Emphasizing* the critical role of productive public-private partnerships for funding sport for development and peace programmes, institutional development and physical and social infrastructures,

1. *Reaffirms* that sport is an important enabler of sustainable development, and recognizes the growing contribution of sport to the realization of development and peace in its promotion of tolerance and respect and the contributions it makes to the empowerment of women and of young people, individuals and communities as well as to health, education and social inclusion objectives;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Strengthening the global framework for leveraging sport for development and peace”,<sup>107</sup> reviewing progress towards the implementation of the United Nations Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace and proposing an update to the Action Plan aimed at outlining a system-wide approach to leveraging sport for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>95</sup> and for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals;

3. *Welcomes* the growing attention by the international community to exploring and leveraging the role of sport and physical activity in the attainment of development objectives and the enjoyment of human rights, and in this regard acknowledges the endorsement by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of the Kazan Action Plan and its sport policy follow-up framework, adopted at the sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport, as a voluntary, overarching reference for fostering international convergence among policymakers in the fields of physical education, physical activity and sports, as well as a potential tool for aligning international and national policy in these fields,<sup>108</sup> and the endorsement by the World Health Assembly of the global action plan on physical activity 2018–2030;<sup>109</sup>

4. *Encourages* Member States, the entities of the United Nations system, including its peacekeeping missions, special political missions and integrated peacebuilding missions, sport-related organizations, federations and associations, athletes, the media, civil society, academia and the private sector to draw on these frameworks, as appropriate, in a coherent and integrated manner, to advance the consolidation of sport in cross-cutting development and peace strategies and the incorporation of sport and physical education in international, regional and national development and peace policies and programmes, on the basis of standards, indicators and benchmarks, as well as to ensure the monitoring and evaluation of such strategies, policies and programmes;

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<sup>107</sup> [A/73/325](#).

<sup>108</sup> See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-ninth Session, Paris, 30 October–14 November 2017*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, sect. IV, resolution 30.

<sup>109</sup> See World Health Organization, document WHA71/2018/REC/1, resolution 71.6.

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5. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying, acceding to and implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>110</sup> and the Optional Protocols thereto,<sup>110</sup> the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>104</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women<sup>111</sup> and the International Convention against Doping in Sport;<sup>106</sup>

6. *Calls upon* the relevant entities of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates and existing resources, to strengthen and systemize inter-agency collaboration, in line with the updated United Nations Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace, to maximize the potential of sport and physical activity to contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, and national peacebuilding and State-building priorities;

7. *Encourages* Member States to effectively use all the opportunities offered by sport and by its values in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and in order to implement the Sustainable Development Goals;

8. *Encourages* the relevant stakeholders to emphasize and advance the use of sport as a vehicle to foster sustainable development and, inter alia, strengthen education, including physical education, for children and young persons, including persons with disabilities, promote health, prevent disease, including non-communicable diseases, and drug abuse, realize gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, foster inclusion and well-being, promote healthy and active ageing, ensure the participation of everyone without discrimination of any kind, promote tolerance, mutual understanding and respect and facilitate social inclusion, conflict prevention and peacebuilding;

9. *Encourages* Member States to provide institutional structures, appropriate quality standards, policies and competencies and promote academic research and expertise in the field to enable ongoing training, capacity-building and education of physical education teachers, coaches and community leaders in sport for development and peace programmes;

10. *Invites* Member States and international sport organizations to continue to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in their capacity-building efforts in sport and physical education by providing national experiences and best practices, as well as financial, technical and logistic resources for the development of sport-based programmes;

11. *Encourages* relevant stakeholders, and in particular the organizers of sport events, to use and leverage such events to promote and support sport for development and peace initiatives and to strengthen existing and build new partnerships, coordinate common strategies, policies and programmes and increase coherence and synergies, while raising awareness at the local, national, regional and global levels;

12. *Encourages* Member States to adopt best practices and means to promote the practice of sport and physical activities among all members of society, and in this regard welcomes initiatives to adopt dedicated education, health, youth and sport days, including specialized sport days, at the national and local levels, as a means to promote physical and mental health and well-being and cultivate a sport culture in society;

13. *Supports* the independence and autonomy of sport as well as the mission of the International Olympic Committee in leading the Olympic movement and of the International Paralympic Committee in leading the Paralympic movement;

14. *Notes* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly, Member States and civil society for the observance of the Olympic Truce, and encourages future hosts of the Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games and other Member States to support the effective implementation of the Truce;

15. *Encourages* relevant entities involved in delivering mega sport events to respect applicable laws and international principles, including the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework,<sup>112</sup> noting other ongoing initiatives in this regard, at every stage of the event life cycle, to safeguard the many societal benefits that hosting such events can contribute;

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<sup>110</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution [66/138](#), annex.

<sup>111</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>112</sup> [A/HRC/17/31](#), annex.

16. *Calls upon* Member States to enhance their efforts to prevent and fight corruption in sport and, in this regard, stresses the importance of robust legislative and law enforcement measures, and also calls upon Member States to improve cooperation and the coordination and exchange of information in accordance with the fundamental principles of their legal systems;

17. *Encourages* Member States, in particular those committed to promoting sport as a tool for development and peace, and other stakeholders, such as international sports federations, organizers of sport events, sports clubs and leagues, foundations and the private sector, especially businesses involved in the sports and development sector, to continue and intensify their support for the work of the United Nations system on sport for development and peace, including through voluntary contributions and the establishment of innovative partnerships to advance policy and programme development in the field of sport for development and peace;

18. *Also encourages* Member States to actively participate in the Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace, an informal group of permanent missions to the United Nations in New York and Geneva serving as a platform to promote dialogue and exchange of views and information, including on ongoing initiatives, programmes and partnerships, between Member States and all relevant stakeholders, as well as to facilitate and encourage the integration of sport to support the achievement of the United Nations goals and objectives;

19. *Further encourages* Member States, with the support of the United Nations system, within existing resources, and other relevant stakeholders, to explore ways and means to integrate sport into various development objectives in the review and follow-up processes of relevant development frameworks and agendas, including the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,<sup>103</sup> the reviews of the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and of the achievement of the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,<sup>113</sup> the follow-up to the World Programme of Action for Youth,<sup>114</sup> the follow-up processes of Agenda 2063 of the African Union and the review and follow-up processes of the 2030 Agenda, including the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;<sup>96</sup>

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including by providing a targeted review of the contribution of sport to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, with particular attention to the annual high-level political forum on sustainable development, when it convenes under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session the item entitled “Sport for development and peace”.

## **RESOLUTION 73/25**

Adopted at the 44th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.39](#) and [A/73/L.39/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Greece, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Kenya, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Sudan, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

### **73/25. International Day of Education**

*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

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<sup>113</sup> Resolution [61/295](#), annex.

<sup>114</sup> Resolution [50/81](#), annex, and resolution [62/126](#), annex.

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,

*Acknowledging* the importance of education for achieving sustainable development, including in the context of the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals, Agenda 21,<sup>115</sup> the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),<sup>116</sup> the Education for All goals, the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development,<sup>117</sup> and the Incheon Declaration and Framework for Action for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 4,

*Recalling* its resolution 72/222 of 20 December 2017 on education for sustainable development in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as its resolution 70/209 of 22 December 2015 and other previous resolutions on the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development,

*Reaffirming* its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, particularly paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for the proclamation of international years, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14, in which it is stated that an international year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

*Recognizing* that education plays a key role in building sustainable and resilient societies and contributes to the achievement of all of the other Sustainable Development Goals; it increases the productivity of individuals and strengthens the potential for economic growth, develops the skills needed for decent work, develops the professional skills needed for sustainable development, including in the fields of water and sanitation, green energy and the conservation of natural resources, helps to eradicate poverty and hunger, contributes to improved health, promotes gender equality and can reduce inequality, and promotes peace, the rule of law and respect for human rights,

*Acknowledging* the importance of working to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels – early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary and distance education, including technical and vocational training – so that all people may have access to lifelong learning opportunities that help them to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to access opportunities to participate fully in society and contribute to sustainable development,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 24 January the International Day of Education;
2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations and civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, faith-based organizations, academic institutions, the private sector, individuals and other relevant stakeholders to observe the International Day of Education in an appropriate manner and to continue to give consideration to enhancing international cooperation in support of the efforts of all Member States towards the realization of Sustainable Development Goal 4;<sup>118</sup>
3. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as the specialized United Nations agency for education, to facilitate the observance of 24 January of every year as the International Day of Education, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67;
4. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions;
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and civil society organizations for appropriate observance.

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<sup>115</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

<sup>116</sup> *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 2, annex.

<sup>117</sup> See A/69/76, annex.

<sup>118</sup> See resolution 70/1.

## RESOLUTION 73/88

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 6 December 2018, by a recorded vote of 124 to none, with 3 abstentions,\* on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.44](#) and [A/73/L.44/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

\* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Libya, Russian Federation, Zimbabwe

### 73/88. The situation in Afghanistan

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution [72/10](#) of 21 November 2017 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

*Recalling also* all relevant Security Council resolutions and statements by the President of the Council on the situation in Afghanistan, in particular resolutions [2189 \(2014\)](#) of 12 December 2014, [2210 \(2015\)](#) of 16 March 2015, [2274 \(2016\)](#) of 15 March 2016, [2344 \(2017\)](#) of 17 March 2017 and [2405 \(2018\)](#) of 8 March 2018,

*Reaffirming its strong commitment* to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, and respecting its multicultural, multi-ethnic and historical heritage,

*Welcoming* the efforts by Afghanistan in the framework of the Transformation Decade (2015–2024) to consolidate its sovereignty through strengthening a fully functioning, sustainable State in the service of its people, with the goal of becoming fully self-reliant,

*Reaffirming* the long-term partnership between the Government of Afghanistan and the international community based on their renewed mutual commitments, as laid down in the Geneva Mutual Accountability Framework, as agreed upon at the Geneva Conference on Afghanistan held on 27 and 28 November 2018, and recalling the long-term commitment of the international community to Afghanistan, reaffirmed at the Geneva Conference, with the aim of continuing to strengthen national ownership and leadership, taking into account the evolving nature of the presence of the international community,

*Reaffirming also* the commitment of the international community to continuing to support the training, equipping, financing and development of the capacity of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces, including as agreed in the Chicago Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2012 and in the Wales, Warsaw and Brussels Summit Declarations on Afghanistan, and honouring the memory of the men and women of the Afghan and international security forces who have given their lives in the course of duty,

*Reiterating* the urgent need to tackle the challenges facing Afghanistan, in particular the region-based terrorist or violent extremist activities of the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, as well as Al-Qaida, Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) (Da'esh) affiliates and other terrorist and violent extremist groups and criminals, the development of the institutions of the Government of Afghanistan, including at the subnational level, the strengthening of the rule of law and democratic processes, the fight against corruption, the continuation of justice sector reform, the promotion of the peace process, without prejudice to the fulfilment of the measures introduced by the Security Council



in its relevant resolutions, in particular resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#) of 15 October 1999, [1988 \(2011\)](#) and [1989 \(2011\)](#) of 17 June 2011, [2082 \(2012\)](#) and [2083 \(2012\)](#) of 17 December 2012, [2160 \(2014\)](#) and [2161 \(2014\)](#) of 17 June 2014, [2253 \(2015\)](#) of 17 December 2015, [2255 \(2015\)](#) of 21 December 2015 and [2368 \(2017\)](#) of 20 July 2017, an Afghan-led transitional justice process, the safe and voluntary return of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons in an orderly and dignified manner, the promotion and protection of human rights, interfaith and intra-faith tolerance and the advancement of economic and social development,

*Expressing its deep concern* about the continuous high level of violence in Afghanistan, especially the number of civilian casualties, condemning in the strongest terms all terrorist activity and all violent attacks, recalling that the Taliban, as well as Al-Qaida, ISIL (Da'esh) affiliates and other terrorist and violent extremist groups and illegal armed groups are responsible for the significant majority of the civilian casualties in Afghanistan, and calling for compliance with international humanitarian law and international human rights law, as applicable, including the obligation of all parties to armed conflict to ensure respect for and the protection of civilians and humanitarian and medical personnel, as well as aid and humanitarian and medical facilities,

*Welcoming* the courageous steps taken by the Government of Afghanistan to promote an Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace through the Kabul Process for Peace and Security Cooperation, including through the offer of talks without preconditions and the temporary ceasefire during Eid al-Fitr, and calling upon the Taliban to respond to the call for peace from the Afghan people and Government,

*Welcoming also* the achievements of the National Unity Government in political, economic, governance and social reforms and in the management of the transition, underlining the need to preserve past achievements, and urging further improvement in this regard, in particular to address poverty and the delivery of services, stimulate economic growth, create employment opportunities, increase domestic revenue and promote human rights, especially women's full and equal enjoyment of these rights, children's rights and the rights of persons belonging to minorities,

*Welcoming further* the holding of parliamentary elections in October 2018, which marked another important step towards the consolidation of democracy in the country, condemning in the strongest terms all terrorist activity and violent attacks aimed at disrupting the elections, commending, in that regard, the people of Afghanistan for their courage and determination in defying terrorism and insecurity to take part in that national process, as well as the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces for the effective manner in which they provided security for the elections, and urging further technical and operational improvements to the electoral process ahead of the presidential elections in April 2019,

*Emphasizing* the central and impartial role of the United Nations in promoting peace and stability in Afghanistan, expressing its appreciation and strong support for all of the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative for Afghanistan in this regard, expressing its appreciation also for the work of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan in accordance with Security Council resolution [2405 \(2018\)](#), and stressing the important role of the Assistance Mission in seeking to further improve the coherence and coordination of international civilian efforts, based on the "One United Nations" approach and guided by the principle of reinforcing Afghan ownership and leadership,

*Noting* the visit of the Security Council to Kabul from 12 to 15 January 2018 as an affirmation of the continued and steadfast support of the international community for a peaceful, secure, stable and prosperous Afghanistan,

*Welcoming* the reports of the Secretary-General and the recommendations contained therein,<sup>119</sup>

1. *Pledges its continued support* to the Government and people of Afghanistan as they rebuild a stable, secure and economically self-sufficient State, free of terrorism and narcotics, and strengthen the foundations of a constitutional democracy as a responsible member of the international community;

2. *Encourages* all partners to support constructively the Government of Afghanistan's reform agenda, including as envisaged in the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework and the Geneva Mutual Accountability Framework, so as to secure a prosperous and democratic Afghanistan, focusing on strengthening the constitutional checks and balances that guarantee citizens' rights and obligations and implementing structural reform to enable an accountable and effective Government to deliver concrete progress to its people;

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<sup>119</sup> [A/71/682-S/2016/1049](#), [A/71/826-S/2017/189](#), [A/71/932-S/2017/508](#), [A/72/392-S/2017/783](#) and [A/73/374/Rev.1-S/2018/824/Rev.1](#).

3. *Supports* the continuing and growing ownership of reconstruction and development efforts by the Government of Afghanistan, emphasizes the crucial need to achieve ownership and accountability in all fields of governance and to improve institutional capabilities, including at the subnational level, in order to use aid more effectively, and underscores in this regard the importance of the commitments of the international community and of the new set of indicators for the Self-Reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework, as reiterated in the communiqué of the Brussels Conference on Afghanistan in October 2016;

4. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Geneva Mutual Accountability Framework, as reflected in the communiqué adopted at the international Geneva Conference on Afghanistan, which underscores the importance of the effective implementation of mutual commitments of the Government of Afghanistan and the international community on a reciprocal basis;

5. *Emphasizes* that threats to stability and development in Afghanistan and the region require closer and more coordinated cooperation, as well as greater coherence and complementarity of approach between countries of the region and the international community, for the long-term peace, security, prosperity and sustainable development of the country, and underscores in this regard the standing of Afghanistan as a platform for such international cooperation;

### **Security**

6. *Recognizes* the commitment of the international community to supporting the training, equipping, financing and development of the capacity of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces throughout the Transformation Decade, as agreed in the Chicago Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2012, the Wales Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2014, the Warsaw Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2016 and the Brussels Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2018, including through the Resolute Support Mission, as welcomed by the Security Council in its resolution [2189 \(2014\)](#);

7. *Welcomes* the pledges and commitments made at the Warsaw Summit of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization held on 8 and 9 July 2016, as reinforced at the Brussels Summit held on 11 and 12 July 2018, to continuing national contributions to the financial sustainment of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces until the end of 2024, to sustaining the Resolute Support Mission and to continuing to deliver training, advice and assistance to the Afghan security institutions, including the police, the air force and special operations forces;

8. *Takes note* of the announcement in 2017 by the United States of America of its strategy for Afghanistan and the adoption by the European Union of its strategy on Afghanistan as important components of the continued support of the international community for the security, development and stability of Afghanistan;

9. *Reiterates once again its serious concern* about the security situation in Afghanistan, stresses the need to continue to address the threat to the security and stability of Afghanistan caused by the region-based violent extremist and other illegal armed groups and criminals, including those involved in the narcotics trade, expresses concern over the serious threat posed by the presence of foreign terrorist fighters, reiterates in this regard its call for the full and serious implementation of measures and the application of procedures introduced in relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1988 \(2011\)](#), [1989 \(2011\)](#), [2082 \(2012\)](#), [2083 \(2012\)](#), [2160 \(2014\)](#), [2161 \(2014\)](#), [2253 \(2015\)](#), [2255 \(2015\)](#) and [2368 \(2017\)](#), and calls upon all States to strengthen their international and regional cooperation to enhance information-sharing, border control, law enforcement and criminal justice to better counter the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters and returning foreign terrorist fighters in Afghanistan and the region;

10. *Expresses its serious concern* regarding the presence of terrorist organizations, in particular Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) (Da'esh) affiliates and its brutal acts, including killings of Afghan nationals, and deplorable attempts to undermine relations between communities, commends the progress of the Government of Afghanistan in combating these threats in the country and affirms its support for continued efforts in this regard, and calls for enhanced regional cooperation in the fight against these groups;

11. *Condemns in the strongest terms* all unlawful acts of violence, intimidation and attacks, including improvised explosive device attacks, suicide attacks, assassinations, including of public figures, abductions, indiscriminate attacks against civilians, killings, attacks against individuals, media groups and organs of society engaged in the promotion and protection of universally recognized human rights, attacks against humanitarian and medical personnel and civilian objects, including schools and hospitals, and the targeting of Afghan and international



forces, which have a deleterious effect on stabilization and development efforts in Afghanistan, and also condemns the use, by the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, Al-Qaida and other terrorist and violent extremist groups and illegal armed groups, of civilians as human shields, as well as Taliban attacks and acts of international terrorists;

12. *Stresses* the need for the Government of Afghanistan and the international community to continue to work closely together and to improve coordination in countering such acts, which are threatening peace and stability in Afghanistan and the democratic process, the achievements and the continued implementation of the Afghanistan development gains and process, as well as humanitarian aid measures, recognizes the achievements of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces in this regard, and calls upon all Member States, in particular neighbouring countries, to deny those groups any form of sanctuary, freedom of operations, movement, recruitment and financial, material or political support that endangers the State system and regional peace and security;

13. *Condemns in the strongest terms* the heinous and cowardly terrorist attack that took place in Kabul on 20 November 2018 targeting a gathering of religious scholars, which resulted in at least 55 people being killed and more than 80 injured, as well as other terrorist attacks throughout Afghanistan which took the lives of Afghan parliamentary candidates, government officials, senior army, police and security officials and civilians, including women and children, diplomatic personnel and religious minorities;

14. *Welcomes* the assumption of full security responsibility by the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces, commends the resilience and courage displayed in this regard, calls upon the international community to provide the support necessary to increase security, including public order, law enforcement, the security of Afghanistan's borders and the preservation of the constitutional rights of Afghan citizens, as well as to provide continued support by training, equipping and contributing to the financing of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces to take on the task of securing their country and fighting against terrorism, and underscores the importance of the Chicago, Wales, Warsaw and Brussels Summit Declarations on Afghanistan and other relevant agreements with regional and international partners;

15. *Also welcomes*, in this regard, the presence of the Resolute Support Mission, expresses its appreciation to Member States for having contributed personnel, equipment and other resources to the Mission and for the support provided to the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces by all international partners, in particular by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization through its previous combat and current non-combat missions in Afghanistan, as well as other bilateral training programmes, and encourages further coordination, where appropriate;

16. *Further welcomes* the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan, with a view to ensuring stability and providing conditions for the effective rule of law and respect for human rights for all, including women's full and equal enjoyment of these rights, to continuing its security sector reform by making the security provision, management and oversight of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces more effective and accountable, welcomes in this regard the progress being made in the Afghan national security institutions, as presented at the Geneva Conference, recognizes the importance of the further implementation of the Afghan National Police Strategy and the 10-year vision presented by the Ministry of the Interior, and expresses its appreciation for the support that Member States have provided to the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces;

17. *Recalls* that regional security cooperation plays a key role in maintaining stability in Afghanistan and the region, welcomes the progress achieved by Afghanistan and regional partners in this regard, calls for further efforts by Afghanistan and regional partners and organizations, including the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, to strengthen their partnership and cooperation, takes note of the eighteenth meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization held in Qingdao, China, on 9 and 10 June 2018, as it related to Afghanistan, and in this regard also takes note of the meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization-Afghanistan Contact Group held in Beijing on 28 May 2018;

18. *Remains deeply concerned* about the persistent problem of anti-personnel landmines and explosive remnants of war, welcomes the achievements to date in the implementation of the Mine Action Programme for Afghanistan aimed at declaring Afghanistan mine-free by 2023, underscores the importance of sustained international assistance, encourages the Government of Afghanistan, with the support of the United Nations and all relevant actors, to continue its efforts to meet its responsibilities under the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,<sup>120</sup> expresses concern at the use of

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<sup>120</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2056, No. 35597.

improvised explosive devices by the Taliban against civilians and the Afghan security forces, and notes the need to enhance coordination and information-sharing between both Member States and the private sector to prevent the flow of improvised explosive device components to the Taliban;

### Peace and reconciliation

19. *Recognizes* that an Afghan-led and Afghan-owned inclusive peace process backed by regional actors, in particular Pakistan, supported by the international community, is essential for achieving long-term peace and stability in Afghanistan and reiterates its firm commitment to supporting the Government of Afghanistan in its efforts in this regard, and that, to be successful, a political solution must ensure the renunciation of violence and the breaking of all ties to international terrorism, protect the human rights of all, including women, children and persons belonging to minorities, in accordance with international law and as enshrined in the Constitution of Afghanistan, and build a peaceful Afghanistan, with full respect for the implementation of the measures and application of the procedures introduced by the Security Council in its resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1988 \(2011\)](#), [2082 \(2012\)](#), [2160 \(2014\)](#) and [2255 \(2015\)](#), as well as other relevant resolutions of the Council, calls upon all relevant States, especially neighbouring countries, and international organizations to remain engaged in the Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace process, and recognizes the impact that terrorist attacks have on the Afghan people, while underlining that such acts should not hinder efforts to achieve a peace settlement;

20. *Welcomes* the offer made by the Government of Afghanistan to begin direct negotiations within the framework of a comprehensive peace plan and the offer made to the Taliban of talks without preconditions at the second meeting of the Kabul Process for Peace and Security Cooperation, on 28 February 2018, and calls upon the Taliban to accept this offer without any preconditions and without the threat of violence, with the aim of agreeing on an ultimate political settlement that leads to sustainable peace for the people of Afghanistan;

21. *Also welcomes* the temporary and partial ceasefire announced separately by the Government of Afghanistan and the Taliban, for the end of Ramadan and the Eid al-Fitr holiday, expresses its strong disappointment that the Taliban has not agreed to the Government's offer to extend or repeat them, and urges the Taliban to respond to the call for peace from the Afghan people;

22. *Encourages* Afghanistan and Pakistan to enhance their relationship, which could lead to cooperation to combat terrorism effectively and move forward the Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace process, takes note, in that regard, of the conclusion of the Afghanistan-Pakistan Action Plan for Peace and Solidarity as an important mechanism of cooperation, and underscores the importance of the effective implementation of the commitments made;

23. *Recalls* that women play a vital role in the peace process, as recognized by the Security Council in its resolution [1325 \(2000\)](#) of 31 October 2000 and in related resolutions, including resolution [2242 \(2015\)](#) of 13 October 2015, welcomes steps taken by the Government of Afghanistan in implementing its national action plan on women, peace and security, recognizes in this regard the increasing role of women in the peace process, as manifested in their representation in the High Peace Council and its provincial committees and secretariats, as well as their contribution to the development of the Afghanistan peace and reconciliation strategy, as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>121</sup> supports further efforts in this regard, and encourages the Government of Afghanistan to further support the active participation of women in the peace process;

24. *Recognizes* that there is no purely military solution to ensure the stability of Afghanistan, welcomes the Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace process, as articulated at the second meeting of the Kabul Process for Peace and Security Cooperation as a main forum and vehicle under the leadership of the Government of Afghanistan to lead peace efforts, notes the work of the Quadrilateral Coordination Group, the International Contact Group on Afghanistan, the Tashkent dialogue consultations and the Moscow format consultations to reinforce Afghan-led and Afghan-owned efforts towards the holding of early direct peace talks between the Government of Afghanistan and authorized representatives of Taliban groups, and calls upon all regional and international partners of Afghanistan to continue their efforts, recognizing that success can be achieved only through the unified and close coordination of efforts under the leadership and ownership of the Government of Afghanistan;

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<sup>121</sup> [A/72/392-S/2017/783](#).

**Democracy**

25. *Emphasizes* the importance of all parties in Afghanistan working together to achieve a unified, peaceful, democratic and prosperous future for all the people of Afghanistan;

26. *Recalls* the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan to improving Afghanistan's electoral process, welcomes the parliamentary elections held in October 2018 and commends the participation and courage of millions of Afghans, including women as voters and candidates, condemns in the strongest terms all terrorist activity and violent attacks aimed at disrupting the elections, reiterates the important role of the independent Afghan electoral institutions in upholding the integrity of the electoral process, calls upon all stakeholders to continue to engage with the electoral institutions with patience and respect and to channel complaints through established constitutional mechanisms in line with Afghanistan's electoral laws and Constitution, and also calls upon Afghanistan's Government and institutions, including the Independent Election Commission and the Electoral Complaints Commission, to ensure that the forthcoming presidential elections and other elections foreseen in 2019 are credible, inclusive, fair and free, safe and transparent by continuing to implement the necessary electoral reforms and further technical and operational improvements to strengthen trust and confidence, including the updating of the voter registration databases;

27. *Welcomes* the increasingly wide and comprehensive dialogue on the political transition towards strengthening the unity of the Afghan people, and underscores its importance for consolidating democracy and Afghan political stability;

28. *Calls upon* the Government of Afghanistan to continue to reform effectively the public administration sector in order to implement the rule of law and to ensure good governance and accountability, and welcomes the commitments, efforts and progress made by the Government in this regard;

**Rule of law, human rights and good governance**

29. *Emphasizes* that the rule of law, human rights and good governance form the foundation for the achievement of a stable and prosperous Afghanistan;

30. *Recalls* the constitutional guarantee of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans, without discrimination of any kind, stresses the need to fully implement the human rights provisions of the Afghan Constitution, in accordance with obligations under applicable international law, in particular those regarding the full enjoyment by women and children of their human rights, and acknowledges efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in this regard;

31. *Recognizes* the membership of Afghanistan in the Human Rights Council, and welcomes the commitment and responsibility assumed in upholding and promoting human rights at the national, regional and international levels, within the framework of relevant international human rights instruments to which it is a party;

32. *Reiterates its concern* at the destructive consequences of violent and terrorist activities, including against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, by the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, as well as Al-Qaida, ISIL (Da'esh) affiliates and other terrorist and violent extremist groups and other illegal armed groups and criminals, for the enjoyment of human rights and for the capacity of the Government to ensure human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans, and stresses the need to further promote tolerance and to ensure respect for the right to freedom of expression and the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief as enshrined in the Afghan Constitution and the international covenants that Afghanistan adheres to;

33. *Emphasizes* the necessity of investigating allegations of current and past violations, and stresses the importance of facilitating the provision of efficient and effective remedies to the victims and of bringing the perpetrators to justice in accordance with national and international law;

34. *Calls for* the full implementation of the mass media law, while noting with concern and condemning the continuing intimidation and violence targeting Afghan journalists, such as cases of abduction and even the killing of journalists by terrorist and violent extremist and criminal groups, urges that the harassment of and attacks on journalists be investigated by Afghan authorities and that those responsible be brought to justice, and welcomes in this regard the issuance of the presidential decree of 3 January 2017 on better implementation of the laws related to mass media to reinforce freedom of expression and ensure access to information and the creation of a journalists' support fund aimed at assisting the bereaved families of journalists and reporters;

35. *Reiterates* its unwavering commitment and that of the Government of Afghanistan to achieving the full and equal participation of women in all spheres of Afghan life, commends the achievements and efforts of the Government aimed at countering discrimination and protecting and promoting the equal rights of women and men consistent with its international obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women<sup>122</sup> and pursuant to the Afghan Constitution, the National Action Plan for the Women of Afghanistan, the Afghan national action plan on women, peace and security, the law on the elimination of violence against women and the national strategy to prevent violence against women, and welcomes recent measures taken towards the protection of women's and girls' full and equal enjoyment of human rights, including the establishment of a senior position in the Office of the Attorney General on the elimination of violence against women and the appointment of 44 female attorneys in 25 provinces;

36. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children in Afghanistan, recalls the need for the full implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>123</sup> its Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography<sup>124</sup> and its Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict<sup>125</sup> by all States parties, as well as of Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005, and all other subsequent resolutions on children and armed conflict, and Council resolutions 1998 (2011) of 12 July 2011 and 2286 (2016) of 3 May 2016 on attacks against schools and hospitals, in particular by terrorist and violent extremist and criminal groups, commends the Government of Afghanistan for introducing legislation banning the recruitment and use of children and for establishing local child protection units, and welcomes the progress made on the implementation of the action plan for the prevention of underage recruitment, signed in January 2011, and the annex thereto on children associated with the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces, and of the road map towards compliance, as well as the signing in 2017 of a child protection policy to protect children from the effects of armed conflict;

37. *Recalls* Security Council resolutions 2250 (2015) of 9 December 2015 on the maintenance of international peace and security and 2419 (2018) of 6 June 2018 on youth, peace and security, in which the Council reaffirmed the important role youth can play in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, welcomes the appointment of Afghanistan's first youth representative to the United Nations, recognizes in this regard the Government of Afghanistan's efforts in enhancing the representation of youth for the prevention and resolution of conflict, and encourages continued efforts in this regard;

38. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the anti-corruption commitment made by the Government of Afghanistan, welcomes in this respect the establishment of the National High Council for Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption, the Anti-Corruption Justice Centre and the National Procurement Commission, the adoption on 28 September 2017 of the Afghanistan National Strategy for Combating Corruption, the enactment of the revised penal code and the anti-corruption law of 2018 and the finalization of anti-corruption action plans for various ministries, as measures taken by the Government to implement its comprehensive reform agenda, strengthen governance and achieve a more effective, accountable and transparent administration at the national, provincial and local levels of government, takes note in this regard of the progress made thus far against the benchmarks of its comprehensive reform agenda presented and endorsed at the third Senior Officials Meeting and at the Geneva Conference on Afghanistan, and urges continued decisive action and accelerated implementation by the Government to establish a more effective, accountable and transparent administration at the national, provincial and local levels of government;

39. *Calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of Afghanistan to meet governance objectives in this regard;

#### Counter-narcotics

40. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in fighting drug production in Afghanistan, takes note of the report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled *Afghanistan Opium Survey 2018: Cultivation and Production*, released on 19 November 2018, which, inter alia, notes a significant decrease in the

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<sup>122</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>123</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>124</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2171, No. 27531.

<sup>125</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2173, No. 27531.

production and cultivation of drugs, due in part to the drought affecting Afghanistan, notes that areas under cultivation remain at high levels, stresses the need to further strengthen joint, coordinated and resolute efforts by the Government, supported by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and international and regional actors, within their designated responsibilities, and encourages international and regional cooperation with Afghanistan in its sustained efforts to address drug production and trafficking;

41. *Stresses* the importance of a comprehensive and balanced approach in addressing the drug problem of Afghanistan, which, to be effective, must be integrated into the wider context of efforts carried out in the areas of security, governance, the rule of law, human rights and economic and social development, in particular in rural areas, including the development of improved alternative livelihood programmes;

42. *Notes with great concern* the strong nexus between the drug trade and terrorist activities by the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, as well as Al-Qaida, ISIL (Da'esh) affiliates and other terrorist groups, violent and extremist groups and criminal groups, which pose a serious threat to security, the rule of law and development in Afghanistan and the region, and stresses the importance of the full implementation of all relevant Security Council resolutions in this regard, including resolutions 2255 (2015) and 2368 (2017), and in this regard emphasizes the need for the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011) and the Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) to continue to pay attention to the linkages between the proceeds of organized crime, inter alia, the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs and their chemical precursors and the financing, respectively, of the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, and of ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities;

43. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to assist the Government of Afghanistan in its National Drug Control Strategy and National Drug Action Plan, calls for such efforts to eliminate the cultivation and production of, trafficking in and consumption of illicit drugs, increase support for Afghan law enforcement and criminal justice agencies, agricultural and rural development for the creation of improved alternative, licit livelihoods for farmers and demand reduction support, increase public awareness of counter-narcotics issues and build the capacity of drug control institutions and care and treatment centres for drug users, reiterates its call upon the international community to channel counter-narcotics funding through the Government of Afghanistan, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant organizations and mechanisms to the extent possible, notes that the problem of production, cultivation, trafficking in and consumption of narcotic drugs, as well as the problem of precursors, should be addressed on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility of the Government and the international community, and welcomes and supports relevant international and regional projects and activities, including those carried out by Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Pakistan within the framework of the triangular initiative to counter narcotics, as well as the Paris Pact initiative;<sup>126</sup>

#### **Social and economic development**

44. *Notes* Afghanistan's position as the top improver in the World Bank *Doing Business 2019* report and the work of the Government of Afghanistan in implementing reforms to improve the business regulatory framework;

45. *Welcomes* the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework setting out the strategic policy priorities of Afghanistan towards achieving self-reliance and the presentation of five national priority programmes, on a citizens' charter, women's economic empowerment, urban development, comprehensive agriculture and national infrastructure, to improve the conditions for advancing sustainable development and stability;

46. *Renews its commitment* to long-term support for the economic development of Afghanistan on the basis of mutual accountability as stated in the Geneva Mutual Accountability Framework, urgently appeals to all States, the United Nations system and international and non-governmental organizations, including the international and regional financial institutions, to continue to provide, in close coordination with the Government of Afghanistan and in accordance with the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework and the national priority programmes contained therein, all possible and necessary humanitarian, recovery, reconstruction, development, financial, educational, technical and material assistance for Afghanistan, and underscores the crucial importance of continued and sequenced implementation of the reform agenda, national priority programmes and the development and governance goals as agreed in the Geneva Mutual Accountability Framework;

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<sup>126</sup> See S/2003/641, annex.

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47. *Recognizes* the substantial development and notable progress achieved by Afghanistan with the steadfast support of the international community in the past years, expresses its support for the reaffirmation and consolidation of the partnership between Afghanistan and the international community midway through the Transformation Decade (2015–2024), during which Afghanistan will consolidate its sovereignty through strengthening a fully functioning, sustainable State in the service of its people, urges the Government of Afghanistan to involve all elements of Afghan society, in particular women, in the development and implementation of relief, rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction programmes, welcomes the presentation by the Government of Afghanistan of the National Priority Programme on Women’s Economic Empowerment and encourages its continued implementation, and welcomes the launch of the women’s economic empowerment plan in March 2017 and the creation of a coordination unit for the National Priority Programme within the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled as important measures for the implementation of the National Priority Programme;

48. *Welcomes* the progress made in implementing the Self-Reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework and the commitment to continuing the reforms agreed in the Geneva Mutual Accountability Framework and the monitoring mechanism included therein, in which the Government of Afghanistan reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening governance, grounded in human rights, the rule of law and adherence to the Afghan Constitution and held it as integral to sustained growth and economic development, and in which the international community committed to enhancing the efficiency of development aid by aligning assistance with the Afghan national priority programmes and by channelling assistance through the national budget of the Government, as outlined in the Tokyo Declaration: Partnership for Self-Reliance in Afghanistan – From Transition to Transformation<sup>127</sup> and reaffirmed in the communiqué of the Brussels Conference on Afghanistan and the new Geneva Mutual Accountability Framework indicators;

49. *Commends* the Government of Afghanistan for aligning its new development strategy with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>128</sup> and urges the international community to assist the Government in implementing its unfinished Millennium Development Goals and its Sustainable Development Goals;

50. *Also commends* the Government of Afghanistan for improving budgetary transparency and its efforts to reach fiscal sustainability, notes the challenges ahead, and urges that continued efforts be made to meet revenue targets;

51. *Recognizes* the necessity for further improvement in the living conditions of the Afghan people, and emphasizes the need to strengthen and support the development of the capacity of the Government of Afghanistan to deliver basic social services at the national, provincial and local levels, in particular education and public health services;

52. *Reiterates* the necessity of providing Afghan children, especially Afghan girls, with educational and health facilities in all parts of the country, and welcomes the progress achieved in the sector of public education;

53. *Notes with concern* the severe drought affecting Afghanistan, with 3.3 million Afghans facing emergency-level food insecurity and more than 220,000 Afghans displaced from their homes, and urges the international community to provide the necessary support and to work with the Government of Afghanistan and humanitarian organizations to respond effectively to the drought needs identified in the revised Afghanistan Humanitarian Response Plan without delay, prior to the onset of winter;

54. *Underscores* the urgent need to address the impacts of climate change in Afghanistan, and emphasizes the need for local, subnational, national, regional and international action to enhance efforts to build resilience, especially for the most vulnerable, by investing in resilience, including disaster risk reduction, strengthening adaptation strategies and enhancing joint risk assessments and risk management strategies, including early warning systems in the country to monitor environmental changes, to cut the impact and cost of natural disasters;

### Refugees

55. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that continue to host Afghan refugees, in particular Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, acknowledging the huge burden they have so far shouldered in this regard,

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<sup>127</sup> A/66/867-S/2012/532, annex I.

<sup>128</sup> Resolution 70/1.



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asks for continued generous support by the international community, and asks relevant international organizations, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration, to continue to work closely with Afghanistan and the countries hosting Afghan refugees with a view to facilitating their voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return, rehabilitation and reintegration;

56. *Welcomes* the outcome of the high-level segment on the Afghan refugee problem of the sixty-sixth session of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,<sup>129</sup> emphasizes the importance of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees to Support Voluntary Repatriation, Sustainable Reintegration and Assistance to Host Countries, and looks forward to the further implementation of the joint communiqué of the International Conference on the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees to Support Voluntary Repatriation, Sustainable Reintegration and Assistance to Host Countries aimed at increased sustainability of returns and continued support for host countries, through the sustained support and the directed efforts of the international community;

57. *Expresses its concern* over the increase in the number of internally displaced persons and refugees from Afghanistan, stresses that stability and development in Afghanistan can be achieved if its citizens can see a future for themselves within their country, reiterates to host countries and the international community the obligations under international refugee law with respect to the protection of refugees, the principle of voluntary return and the right to seek asylum and to ensure full, safe and unhindered access for humanitarian relief agencies in order to provide protection and assistance to internally displaced persons and refugees, and calls upon countries to continue to accept an appropriate number of Afghan refugees for resettlement as a manifestation of their shared responsibility and solidarity;

58. *Takes note* of the cooperation framework signed between the Government of Afghanistan and the European Union, entitled “Joint way forward on migration issues”, and in this context underscores the importance of close and effective cooperation to address the problem of irregular migration in a comprehensive manner, with due focus on and consideration of addressing the root causes of migration, including through job creation and the establishment of returnees’ livelihoods in Afghanistan, and in accordance with international commitments and obligations, including the human rights and legal rights of all migrants and the rights of persons in need of international protection in line with the provisions of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees<sup>130</sup> and the 1967 Protocol thereto,<sup>131</sup> as applicable;

59. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan to making the repatriation and reintegration of Afghan refugees one of its highest national priorities, including their voluntary, safe and dignified return and their sustainable reintegration into national development planning and prioritization processes, takes note in this regard of the accession of Afghanistan to the Protocol against the smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>132</sup> on 2 February 2017, and encourages and supports all efforts of the Government towards the implementation of this commitment;

60. *Reaffirms its firm support* for the implementation of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees to Support Voluntary Repatriation, Sustainable Reintegration and Assistance to Host Countries endorsed by the international community in 2012, and acknowledges the Enhanced Voluntary Return and Reintegration Package for Afghan Refugees as an innovative way to enhance sustainable return and reintegration;

61. *Welcomes* the continued return of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons, in a voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable manner, while noting with concern the security challenges of Afghanistan;

### Regional cooperation

62. *Stresses* the crucial importance of advancing constructive and sustainable regional cooperation as an effective means of promoting and complementing peace, security, stability and economic and social development in Afghanistan, recognizes in this regard the importance of the contribution of neighbouring and regional partners and

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<sup>129</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 12A (A/70/12/Add.1)*, annex II.

<sup>130</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

<sup>131</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 606, No. 8791.

<sup>132</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2241, No. 39574.



regional organizations, recalls the importance of the Kabul Declaration on Good-neighbourly Relations of 22 December 2002<sup>133</sup> and welcomes in this regard the continued commitment of the international community to supporting the stability and development of Afghanistan, encourages further improved relations and enhanced engagement between Afghanistan and its neighbours, calls for further efforts in this regard, including in the framework of the Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process on Regional Security and Cooperation for a Secure and Stable Afghanistan and by regional organizations and long-term strategic partnerships and other agreements aimed at achieving a peaceful, stable and prosperous Afghanistan, welcomes international and regional initiatives in this regard, such as those of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan process, the European Union, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Quadrilateral Cooperation and Coordination Mechanism in Counter-Terrorism comprising the armed forces of Afghanistan, China, Pakistan and Tajikistan, the China-Afghanistan-Pakistan dialogues and the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia;

63. *Welcomes* the important initiatives for regional connectivity, notably in the frameworks of the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan and the Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process confidence-building measures to facilitate increased trade throughout the region, commends the holding of the seventh Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan in Ashgabat on 14 and 15 November 2017, and looks forward to the forthcoming Heart of Asia Ministerial Conference, to be held in Turkey in 2019;

64. *Emphasizes*, in this regard, the importance of strengthening local and regional networks of transportation that will facilitate connectivity for economic development, stability and self-sustainability, particularly the completion and maintenance of local railroad and land routes, the development of regional projects to foster further connectivity and the enhancement of international civil aviation capabilities;

65. *Welcomes and urges* further efforts to strengthen the process of regional economic cooperation, including measures to facilitate regional connectivity, trade and transit, acknowledges the progress made on such projects and initiatives as the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline project, the Central Asia South Asia Electricity Transmission and Trade Project (CASA-1000), the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan (TAP) 500 and Turkmenistan-Uzbekistan-Tajikistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan (TUTAP) electricity projects, the Pakistan-Afghanistan-Tajikistan Regional Integration Programme (PATRIP), the Chabahar agreement between Afghanistan, India and the Islamic Republic of Iran and the transport of development assistance from India to Afghanistan through the Chabahar port, the Lapis Lazuli Transit, Trade and Transport Route agreement and the Turkmenistan-Aqina railway segment and on bilateral transit trade agreements, expanded consular visa cooperation and the facilitation of business travel, to expand trade, increase foreign investments and develop infrastructure, including infrastructural connectivity, energy supply, transport and integrated border management, with a view to promoting sustainable economic growth and the creation of jobs in Afghanistan and the region, notes the historical role of Afghanistan as a land bridge in Asia, recalls that such regional economic cooperation plays an important role in achieving stability and development in Afghanistan, in this regard urges all relevant stakeholders to create a feasible and secure environment for the full implementation of these development initiatives and trade agreements, and welcomes the progress made by these initiatives and projects in enhancing regional connectivity, trade and transit, including the creation of direct air freight corridors between Afghanistan and China, India, Italy, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates;

### **United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board**

66. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, as mandated by the Security Council in its resolution 2405 (2018), stresses the continued importance of the central and impartial coordinating role of the United Nations in promoting a more coherent international engagement, and acknowledges the central role played by the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board in this regard;

67. *Emphasizes* the importance of the strategic review of the mandated tasks, priorities and related resources of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, and calls for the continued implementation of the recommendations of the Secretary-General,<sup>134</sup> with a view to supporting efforts for peace and ensuring greater

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<sup>133</sup> S/2002/1416, annex.

<sup>134</sup> See A/72/312-S/2017/696.

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coordination, coherence and efficiency among relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, based on the “One United Nations” approach, in line with the reform agenda and the national priority programmes of the Government of Afghanistan;

68. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report every three months on developments in Afghanistan, as well as on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

69. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “The situation in Afghanistan”.

### RESOLUTION 73/89

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 6 December 2018, by a recorded vote of 156 to 6, with 12 abstentions,\* on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.49](#), sponsored by Ireland

\* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Israel, Liberia, Marshall Islands, Nauru, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Guatemala, Honduras, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, South Sudan, Timor-Leste, Vanuatu

### 73/89. Comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions,

*Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reiterates its call* for the achievement, without delay, of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, including Security Council resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#) of 23 December 2016, the Madrid terms of reference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative<sup>135</sup> and the Quartet road map,<sup>136</sup> and an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967, including of East Jerusalem, and reaffirms in this regard its unwavering support, in accordance with international law, for the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, based on the pre-1967 borders.

### RESOLUTION 73/124

Adopted at the 50th plenary meeting, on 11 December 2018, by a recorded vote of 121 to 1, with 3 abstentions,\* on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.35](#) and [A/73/L.35/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Albania, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Greece, Guinea, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lithuania, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Nauru, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua

<sup>135</sup> [A/56/1026-S/2002/932](#), annex II, resolution 14/221.

<sup>136</sup> [S/2003/529](#), annex.

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New Guinea, Portugal, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Viet Nam

\* *In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam

*Against:* Turkey

*Abstaining:* Colombia, El Salvador, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

### 73/124. Oceans and the law of the sea

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its annual resolutions on the law of the sea and on oceans and the law of the sea, including resolution 72/73 of 5 December 2017, as well as other relevant resolutions concerning the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the Convention),<sup>137</sup>

*Recalling*, in this regard, resolution 72/249 of 24 December 2017 on an international legally binding instrument under the Convention on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction,

*Underscoring* the importance of the work undertaken by the intergovernmental conference to elaborate the text of an international legally binding instrument under the Convention on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction,

*Having considered* the reports of the Secretary-General,<sup>138</sup> the reports on the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects (the Regular Process)<sup>139</sup> and of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (the Informal Consultative Process) at its nineteenth meeting<sup>140</sup> and the report of the twenty-eighth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,<sup>141</sup>

*Recognizing* the pre-eminent contribution provided by the Convention to the strengthening of peace, security, cooperation and friendly relations among all nations in conformity with the principles of justice and equal rights and to the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples of the world, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as to the sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

*Emphasizing* the universal and unified character of the Convention, and reaffirming that the Convention sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out and is of strategic importance as the basis for national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector, and that its integrity needs to be maintained, as recognized also by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,<sup>142</sup>

<sup>137</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

<sup>138</sup> [A/73/68](#) and [A/73/368](#).

<sup>139</sup> [A/73/74](#) and [A/73/373](#).

<sup>140</sup> [A/73/124](#).

<sup>141</sup> [SPLOS/324](#).

<sup>142</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

*Noting with satisfaction* that, in 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”,<sup>143</sup> as endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, States recognized that oceans, seas and coastal areas form an integrated and essential component of the Earth’s ecosystem and are critical to sustaining it, and that international law, as reflected in the Convention, provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources, and stressed the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and of their resources for sustainable development, including through their contributions to poverty eradication, sustained economic growth, food security and creation of sustainable livelihoods and decent work, while at the same time protecting biodiversity and the marine environment and addressing the impacts of climate change,

*Recalling* that, in “The future we want”, States underscored that broad public participation and access to information and judicial and administrative proceedings were essential to the promotion of sustainable development and that sustainable development required the meaningful involvement and active participation of regional, national and subnational legislatures and judiciaries, and all major groups, and, in this regard, that they agreed to work more closely with major groups and other stakeholders and encouraged their active participation, as appropriate, in processes that contribute to decision-making, planning and implementation of policies and programmes for sustainable development at all levels,

*Recalling also* the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, held from 25 to 27 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, and in this regard reaffirming the commitment to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, as reflected in Goal 14 of the outcome document,

*Recognizing* the important contribution of the conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources to the achievement of the sustainable development goals contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Recalling* its resolution 71/312 of 6 July 2017 in which it endorsed the declaration entitled “Our ocean, our future: call for action” adopted by the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, held from 5 to 9 June 2017, coinciding with World Oceans Day on 8 June, and in this regard affirming the important role of the declaration in demonstrating the collective will to take action to conserve and sustainably use our oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development,

*Recognizing* the important contributions of the partnership dialogues and voluntary commitments made in the context of the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 to the effective and timely implementation of Goal 14,

*Recognizing also* paragraphs 64 and 65 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, adopted by the Conference, which was held from 13 to 16 July 2015,<sup>144</sup>

*Welcoming* the ocean-related outcomes of the third session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, especially the resolutions on marine litter and microplastics<sup>145</sup> and on addressing water pollution to protect and restore water-related ecosystems,<sup>146</sup> and the resolution on the role, functions and modalities for United Nations Environment Programme implementation of the Samoa Pathway as a means of facilitating achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>147</sup>

*Conscious* that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach, and reaffirming the need to improve cooperation and coordination at the national, regional and global levels, in accordance with the Convention, to support and supplement

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<sup>143</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>144</sup> Resolution 69/313, annex.

<sup>145</sup> UNEP/EA.3/Res.7.

<sup>146</sup> UNEP/EA.3/Res.10.

<sup>147</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/71/25)*, annex, resolution 2/4.

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the efforts of each State in promoting the implementation and observance of the Convention and the integrated management and sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

*Reiterating* the essential need for cooperation, including through capacity-building and transfer of marine technology, to ensure that all States, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, are able both to implement the Convention and to benefit from the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, as well as to participate fully in global and regional forums and processes dealing with oceans and law of the sea issues, while recognizing the need to also address the particular challenges faced by developing middle-income countries,

*Emphasizing* the need to strengthen the ability of competent international organizations to contribute, at the global, regional, subregional and bilateral levels, through cooperation programmes with Governments, to the development of national capacity in marine science and the sustainable management of the oceans and their resources,

*Recalling* that marine science is important for eradicating poverty, contributing to food security, conserving the world's marine environment and resources, helping to understand, predict and respond to natural events and promoting the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, by improving knowledge, through sustained research efforts and the evaluation of monitoring results, and applying such knowledge to management and decision-making,

*Reiterating its deep concern* at the serious adverse impacts on the marine environment and biodiversity, in particular on vulnerable marine ecosystems and their physical and biogenic structure, including coral reefs, cold water habitats, hydrothermal vents and seamounts, of certain human activities,

*Emphasizing* the need for the safe and environmentally sound recycling of ships,

*Expressing deep concern* at the adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of the physical alteration and destruction of marine habitats that may result from land-based and coastal development activities, in particular those land reclamation activities that are carried out in a manner that has a detrimental impact on the marine environment,

*Reiterating its serious concern* at the current and projected adverse effects of climate change and ocean acidification on the marine environment and marine biodiversity, and emphasizing the urgency of addressing these issues,

*Noting with concern*, in this regard, the findings by the World Meteorological Organization, in its annual *Greenhouse gas bulletin*, that, in 2016, carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere surpassed 400 parts per million, and that changes in its concentration have never been recorded as happening, as based on measurements of carbon dioxide from ice core records, as fast as in the past 150 years, and the findings in its *Statement on the State of the Global Climate in 2017* that global mean temperatures in 2017 were about 1.1°C above the 1850 to 1900 average,

*Noting with concern also* that the World Meteorological Organization, in its *Statement on the State of the Global Climate in 2017*, highlighted that the world also continued to see rising sea levels, with some acceleration, and increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases, while the cryosphere continued its contraction, with global sea ice shrinking,

*Expressing concern* that climate change continues to increase the severity and incidence of coral bleaching throughout tropical seas and weakens the ability of reefs to withstand ocean acidification, which could have serious and irreversible negative effects on marine organisms, particularly corals, as well as to withstand other pressures, including overfishing and pollution,

*Reiterating its deep concern* at the vulnerability of the environment and the fragile ecosystems of the polar regions, including the Arctic Ocean and the Arctic ice cap, particularly affected by the projected adverse effects of climate change and ocean acidification,

*Recognizing* the need for a more integrated and ecosystem-based approach to, further study of and the promotion of measures for enhanced cooperation, coordination and collaboration relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction,

*Recognizing also* that the realization of the benefits of the Convention could be enhanced by international cooperation, technical assistance and advanced scientific knowledge, as well as by funding and capacity-building,

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*Recognizing further* that hydrographic surveys and nautical charting are critical to the safety of navigation and life at sea, environmental protection, including the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems, and the economics of the global shipping industry, and encouraging further efforts towards electronic charting, which not only provides significantly increased benefits for safe navigation and management of ship movement, but also provides data and information that can be used for sustainable fisheries activities and other sectoral uses of the marine environment, the delimitation of maritime boundaries and environmental protection, and noting that, under the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974,<sup>148</sup> ships on international voyages are required to carry an electronic chart display and information system, in accordance with the implementation schedule as set out in that Convention,

*Recognizing* that ocean data buoys deployed and operated in accordance with international law are critical for improving understanding of weather, climate and ecosystems, and that certain types of ocean data buoys contribute to saving lives by detecting tsunamis, and reiterating its serious concern at intentional and unintentional damage to such buoys,

*Emphasizing* that underwater archaeological, cultural and historical heritage, including shipwrecks and watercraft, holds essential information on the history of humankind and that such heritage is a resource that needs to be protected and preserved,

*Recognizing* the duty of States under article 303, paragraph 1, of the Convention to protect objects of an archaeological and historical nature found at sea and to cooperate for this purpose,

*Expressing concern*, in this regard, at various threats posed to such objects, including their destruction as well as the illicit trafficking in such objects,

*Recognizing* that illicit trafficking in wildlife is, in some cases, committed by transnational organized criminal groups using maritime routes, contributes to damage to ecosystems and livelihoods and requires enhanced regional and global cooperation and coordination in response, in accordance with international law,

*Noting with concern* the continuing problem of transnational organized crime committed at sea, including illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and illicit trafficking in firearms, and threats to maritime safety and security, including piracy, armed robbery at sea, smuggling and terrorist acts against shipping, offshore installations and other maritime interests, and noting the deplorable loss of life and adverse impact on international trade, energy security and the global economy resulting from such activities,

*Reiterating* the importance of the fair treatment of crew members and its influence on maritime safety,

*Recognizing* that fibre-optic submarine cables transmit most of the world's data and communications and hence are vitally important to the global economy and the national security of all States, conscious that these cables are susceptible to intentional and accidental damage from shipping and other activities and that the maintenance, including the repair, of these cables is important, noting that these matters have been brought to the attention of States at various workshops and seminars, and conscious of the need for States to adopt national laws and regulations to protect submarine cables and render their wilful damage or damage by culpable negligence punishable offences,

*Noting* the importance of the delineation of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and that it is in the broader interest of the international community that coastal States with a continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles submit information on the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (the Commission), and welcoming the submissions to the Commission by a considerable number of States Parties to the Convention on the outer limits of their continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, that the Commission has continued to fulfil its role, including of making recommendations to coastal States, and that the summaries of recommendations are being made publicly available,<sup>149</sup>

*Noting also* that some coastal States may continue to face particular challenges in relation to preparing and presenting submissions to the Commission,

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<sup>148</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1184, No. 18961.

<sup>149</sup> Available from the web page of the Commission maintained by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.



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*Noting further* that financial and technical assistance may be sought by developing countries for activities in relation to preparing and presenting submissions to the Commission, including additional information with respect to submissions and revised or new submissions, including through the voluntary trust fund established by the General Assembly in its resolution [55/7](#) of 30 October 2000 for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission for developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and compliance with article 76 of the Convention, as well as other accessible international assistance,

*Reaffirming* the importance of the work of the Commission for coastal States and for the international community,

*Recognizing* that practical difficulties can arise when there is a considerable delay between the preparation of submissions and their consideration by the Commission, including in retaining expertise up to and during the consideration of the submissions by the Commission,

*Recognizing also* the significant workload of the Commission in view of the large number of submissions already received and a number of submissions yet to be received, which places significant demands and challenges on its members and the secretariat as provided by the Secretary-General of the United Nations through the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat (the Division),

*Noting with concern* the projected timetable of the work of the Commission on the submissions already received by it and those yet to be received, and in this regard noting the decisions of the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention to request the Commission to consider, in coordination with the secretariat, within the existing resources made available to the Secretariat, that the Commission, and its subcommissions meeting simultaneously as far as possible, meet at United Nations Headquarters for up to 26 weeks but not less than an intended minimum of 21 weeks a year, distributed in such a way that the Commission determines to be the most effective, and that no two sessions be sequential,<sup>150</sup>

*Recognizing* the need to ensure that the Commission can perform its functions under the Convention expeditiously, efficiently and effectively and maintain its high level of quality and expertise,

*Expressing concern* about the implications of the workload of the Commission for the conditions of service of its members,

*Recalling*, in this regard, the decisions of the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth Meetings of States Parties to the Convention regarding the conditions of service of the members of the Commission,<sup>151</sup>

*Recalling also* its decision, in resolutions [57/141](#) of 12 December 2002 and [58/240](#) of 23 December 2003, to establish a regular process under the United Nations for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socioeconomic aspects, both current and foreseeable, building on existing regional assessments, as recommended by the World Summit on Sustainable Development,<sup>152</sup> and noting the need for cooperation among all States to this end,

*Recalling further* its decisions, in resolution [65/37 A](#) of 7 December 2010, resolution [66/231](#) of 24 December 2011, resolution [70/235](#) of 23 December 2015, resolution [71/257](#) of 23 December 2016 and resolution [72/73](#), regarding the Regular Process, as established under the United Nations and accountable to the General Assembly,

*Recalling* that the Division was designated to provide secretariat support to the Regular Process, including its established institutions,

*Reaffirming* the cross-cutting role of ocean science in Sustainable Development Goal 14 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Reaffirming also* its decision, in resolution [72/73](#), to proclaim the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development for the 10-year period beginning on 1 January 2021, within existing structures and available resources,

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<sup>150</sup> See [SPLOS/229](#) and [SPLOS/303](#).

<sup>151</sup> [SPLOS/286](#) and [SPLOS/303](#).

<sup>152</sup> See *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 2, annex.



*Recognizing* the importance and the contribution of the work of the Informal Consultative Process established by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/33 of 24 November 1999 to facilitate the annual review of developments in ocean affairs by the Assembly,

*Noting* the continuously growing responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Convention and related resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 49/28 of 6 December 1994, 52/26 of 26 November 1997, 54/33, 65/37 A, 65/37 B of 4 April 2011, 66/231, 67/78 of 11 December 2012, 68/70 of 9 December 2013, 69/245 of 29 December 2014, 70/235, 71/257, 72/73 and 72/249 and in this context the unprecedented substantial increase in activities of the Division, in particular in view of the growing number of requests to the Division for additional outputs and servicing of meetings, the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building, the need for enhanced support and assistance to the Commission and the role of the Division in carrying out the functions in resolution 72/249, as the secretariat of the Regular Process, in relation to the functions as focal point for UN-Oceans and in relation to support for the implementation by Member States of the oceans-related Sustainable Development Goals in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Reaffirming* the importance of the work of the International Seabed Authority (the Authority) in accordance with the Convention and the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 (the Part XI Agreement),<sup>153</sup>

*Reaffirming also* the importance of the work of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (the Tribunal) in accordance with the Convention,

## **I**

### **Implementation of the Convention and related agreements and instruments**

1. *Reaffirms* the unified character of the Convention and the vital importance of preserving its integrity;
2. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to fully achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention and the Part XI Agreement;<sup>153</sup>
3. *Calls upon* States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (the Fish Stocks Agreement);<sup>154</sup>
4. *Calls upon* States to harmonize their national legislation with the provisions of the Convention and, where applicable, relevant agreements and instruments, to ensure the consistent application of those provisions and to ensure also that any declarations or statements that they have made or make when signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention do not purport to exclude or to modify the legal effect of the provisions of the Convention in their application to the State concerned and to withdraw any such declarations or statements;
5. *Calls upon* States Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to deposit with the Secretary-General charts or lists of geographical coordinates, as provided for in the Convention, preferably using the generally accepted and most recent geodetic datums;
6. *Notes*, in this regard, the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to improve the existing geographic information system for the deposit by States of charts and geographical coordinates concerning maritime zones, including lines of delimitation, submitted pursuant to the Convention, and to give due publicity thereto, also notes the ongoing cooperation and progress achieved in the development by the International Hydrographic Organization, in cooperation with the Division, of the technical standards for the collection, storage and dissemination of the information deposited, in order to ensure compatibility among geographic information systems, electronic nautical charts and other systems, and re-emphasizes the importance of the prompt completion of these efforts;
7. *Urges* all States to cooperate, directly or through competent international bodies, in taking measures to protect and preserve objects of an archaeological and historical nature found at sea, in conformity with the Convention,

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<sup>153</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1836, No. 31364.

<sup>154</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2167, No. 37924.

and calls upon States to work together on such diverse challenges and opportunities as the appropriate relationship between salvage law and scientific management and conservation of underwater cultural heritage, increasing technological abilities to discover and reach underwater sites, looting and growing underwater tourism;

8. *Acknowledges* the recent deposit of instruments of ratification and acceptance of the 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage,<sup>155</sup> calls upon States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to that Convention, and notes in particular the rules annexed to that Convention, which address the relationship between salvage law and scientific principles of management, conservation and protection of underwater cultural heritage among Parties, their nationals and vessels flying their flag;

## **II**

### **Capacity-building**

9. *Emphasizes* that capacity-building is essential to ensure that States, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, are able to fully implement the Convention, benefit from the sustainable development of the oceans and seas and participate fully in global and regional forums on ocean affairs and the law of the sea;

10. *Also emphasizes* the need to address the particular challenges faced by developing middle-income countries through capacity-building;

11. *Recalls*, in this regard, that, in “The future we want”,<sup>143</sup> States recognized the importance of building the capacity of developing countries to be able to benefit from the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and their resources, and in this regard emphasized the need for cooperation in marine scientific research to implement the provisions of the Convention and the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, as well as for the transfer of technology, taking into account the Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology adopted by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-second session, in 2003;

12. *Emphasizes* the need for international cooperation for capacity-building, including cross-sectoral cooperation, at national, regional and global levels, to address, in particular, gaps in capacity-building in ocean affairs and the law of the sea, including marine science;

13. *Calls for* capacity-building initiatives to take into account the needs of developing countries, and calls upon States, international organizations and donor agencies to make efforts to ensure the sustainability of such initiatives;

14. *Calls upon* donor agencies and international financial institutions to keep their programmes systematically under review to ensure the availability in all States, particularly in developing States, of the economic, legal, navigational, scientific and technical skills necessary for the full implementation of the Convention and the objectives of the present resolution, as well as the sustainable development of the oceans and seas nationally, regionally and globally, and in so doing to bear in mind the interests and needs of landlocked developing States;

15. *Encourages* intensified efforts to build capacity for developing countries, in particular for the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to improve aids to navigation and search and rescue services, hydrographic services and the production of nautical charts, including electronic charts, as well as the mobilization of resources and building of capacity with support from international financial institutions and the donor community;

16. *Calls upon* States and international institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes, technical partnerships and fellowships, to continue to support and strengthen capacity-building activities, in particular in developing countries, in the field of marine scientific research by, inter alia, training personnel to develop and enhance relevant expertise, providing the necessary equipment, facilities and vessels and transferring environmentally sound technologies;

17. *Also calls upon* States and international institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes, technical partnerships and fellowships, to support and strengthen capacity-building

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<sup>155</sup> Ibid., vol. 2562, No. 45694.

activities in developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, to develop their maritime administration and appropriate legal frameworks to establish or enhance the necessary infrastructure, legislative and enforcement capabilities to promote effective compliance with and implementation and enforcement of their responsibilities under international law;

18. *Further calls upon* States and international institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes, technical partnerships and fellowships, to develop and strengthen capacity-building activities in and to transfer to developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, on mutually agreed terms, and taking into account the Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, environmentally sound technologies to study and minimize the impacts of ocean acidification;

19. *Notes* the international scientific cooperation within the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network and its efforts in building scientific capacity for ocean acidification monitoring, research and experimentation, including through the Pier2Peer scientific mentorship programme;

20. *Emphasizes* the need to focus on strengthening South-South cooperation as an additional way to build capacity and as a cooperative mechanism to further enable countries to set their own priorities and needs and to foster actions to implement such cooperation;

21. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution to capacity-building in the field of the law of the sea by the Rhodes Academy of Oceans Law and Policy, a cooperative undertaking by the Center for Oceans Law and Policy of the University of Virginia School of Law, the Aegean Institute of the Law of the Sea and Maritime Law, the Law of the Sea Institute of Iceland, the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, the Netherlands Institute for the Law of the Sea of Utrecht University and the Centre for International Law of the National University of Singapore, which enjoys associate sponsorship of the Korea Maritime Institute and the Ankara University Research Center of the Sea and Maritime Law and offers a prominent three-week summer course annually in Rhodes, Greece, and has graduated 947 students from 123 countries;

22. *Also recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution to capacity-building in the field of the law of the sea by the Summer Academy of the International Foundation for the Law of the Sea at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea;

23. *Further recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution of the Korea Maritime Institute to the trust fund to support the internship programmes at the Tribunal since 2011 and its continued efforts, in cooperation with the Expo 2012 Yeosu Korea Foundation, to provide education and training for capacity-building of developing countries through the Yeosu Academy of the Law of the Sea programme;

24. *Recognizes* the holding of the regional course on the continental shelf in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, jointly organized in 2018 by the African Institute of International Law and the University of the Faroe Islands, and its important contribution to capacity-building, particularly in developing countries;

25. *Also recognizes* the importance of the work of the Malta-based International Maritime Law Institute of the International Maritime Organization, as a centre of education and training of specialists in maritime law, including government legal advisers and other high-level officials, mainly from developing States, confirms its effective capacity-building role in the field of international maritime law, shipping law and marine environmental law, and urges States, intergovernmental organizations and financial institutions to make voluntary financial contributions to the budget of the Institute which runs annually;

26. *Further recognizes* the importance of the World Maritime University of the International Maritime Organization, which celebrated its thirty-fifth anniversary in 2018, as a centre of excellence for maritime education and research, confirms its effective capacity-building role in the field of maritime transportation, policy, administration, management, safety, security and environmental protection, as well as its role in the international exchange and transfer of knowledge, welcomes the inauguration in 2018 of the World Maritime University-Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute, and urges States, intergovernmental organizations and other bodies to make voluntary financial contributions to the University's Endowment Fund;

27. *Welcomes* ongoing activities for capacity-building so as to address maritime security and protection of the marine environment of developing States, and encourages States and international financial institutions to provide additional funding for capacity-building programmes, including for transfer of technology, including through the International Maritime Organization and other competent international organizations;

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28. *Recognizes* the ongoing activities of the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in coordinating capacity-building efforts to support developing States in achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in marine and coastal areas;<sup>156</sup>

29. *Also recognizes* the considerable need to provide sustained capacity-building assistance, including on financial and technical aspects, by relevant international organizations and donors to developing States, with a view to further strengthening their capacity to take effective measures against the multiple facets of international criminal activities at sea, in line with the relevant international instruments, including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;<sup>157</sup>

30. *Further recognizes* the need to build the capacity of developing States to raise awareness of and support the implementation of improved waste management practices, noting the particular vulnerability of small island developing States to the impact of marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities and marine debris and nutrient pollution;<sup>158</sup>

31. *Recognizes* the importance of assisting developing States, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, in implementing the Convention, urges States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons, to make voluntary financial or other contributions to the trust funds, as referred to in resolutions [55/7](#), [57/141](#), and [64/71](#) of 4 December 2009, established for this purpose, and expresses its appreciation to those that have contributed;<sup>159</sup>

32. *Acknowledges* the importance of capacity-building for developing States, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, for the protection of the marine environment and the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources;

33. *Recognizes* that promoting the voluntary transfer of technology is an essential aspect of building capacity in marine science;

34. *Encourages* States to use the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, and recalls the important role of the secretariat of that Commission in the implementation and promotion of the Criteria and Guidelines;

35. *Also encourages* States to consider additional opportunities for capacity-building at the regional level;

36. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Tribunal in holding regional workshops;

37. *Notes with satisfaction* the publication of the first edition of the *Global Ocean Science Report* by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission;

38. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the new Capacity Development Strategy (2015–2021), which takes into account that capacity development is a fundamental tenet of the mission of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission;

39. *Expresses its appreciation* for the contribution of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission to capacity-building through its Ocean Teacher Academy training system, which has provided training in ocean data and information management, and notes the setting up of the Ocean Teacher Global Academy, operating through a network of regional training centres, which builds capacity and promotes expertise available in developing countries;

40. *Welcomes* the establishment by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission at its twenty-ninth session of the Group of Experts on Capacity Development;

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<sup>156</sup> See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, sect. I, and Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity decision XII/23, paras. 19–22.

<sup>157</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

<sup>158</sup> See 2012 Guidelines for the Development of a Regional Reception Facilities Plan, International Maritime Organization, resolution MEPC.221(63).

<sup>159</sup> See [A/70/74/Add.1](#), para. 137.

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41. *Notes with satisfaction* the efforts of the Division to compile information on capacity-building initiatives, requests the Secretary-General to continue to regularly update such information provided by States, international organizations and donor agencies and include it in his annual report to the General Assembly, invites States, international organizations and donor agencies to submit such information to the Secretary-General for this purpose, and requests the Division to post the information on capacity-building initiatives from the annual report of the Secretary-General on the website of the Division in an easily accessible manner so as to facilitate the matching of capacity-building needs with opportunities;

42. *Calls upon* States to continue to assist developing States, and especially the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, at the bilateral and, where appropriate, multilateral levels, in the preparation of submissions to the Commission regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, including the assessment of the nature and extent of the continental shelf of a coastal State, and recalls that coastal States can make requests to the Commission for scientific and technical advice in the preparation of data for their submissions, in accordance with article 3 of annex II to the Convention;

43. *Recognizes* the importance of the trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission for developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and compliance with article 76 of the Convention, and for the purpose of providing assistance to developing States to meet the travel and daily subsistence allowance costs associated with meeting with the Commission when their submissions are being examined and upon the invitation of the Commission,<sup>160</sup> in accordance with paragraph 31 of the terms of reference, guidelines and rules of the trust fund, recognizes also the need for assistance in the preparation of additional information with respect to submissions and revised or new submissions and in maintaining critical capacity during the period from the submission by a coastal developing State of the particulars of the outer limits of its continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles to the Commission up to the final stages of its examination by the Commission, and amends, as set out in the annex to the present resolution, sections 1, 2, 4 and 5 of the terms of reference, guidelines and rules of the trust fund;<sup>161</sup>

44. *Calls upon* the Division to continue to disseminate information on relevant procedures related to the trust fund established for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission and to continue its dialogue with potential beneficiaries with a view to providing financial support to developing countries for activities to facilitate their submissions in accordance with the requirements of article 76 of the Convention and with the Rules of Procedure<sup>162</sup> and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission;<sup>163</sup>

45. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with States and relevant international organizations and institutions, to continue to support training and other activities to assist developing States in the preparation and presentation of their submissions to the Commission;

46. *Recognizes with appreciation* the contribution of the Division to capacity-building activities at the national and regional levels, in particular the work of the Division in promoting wider appreciation of the Convention and in assisting with its implementation, through the provision of information, advice and assistance to States and intergovernmental organizations, as well as the support of the Division for Member State implementation of the relevant parts of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>164</sup>

47. *Notes* the partnership between the Division and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission on a training programme on marine scientific research under the Convention, and encourages States, relevant international organizations and other donors to consider supporting the initiative;

48. *Invites* States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to support the capacity-building activities of the Division, including by making earmarked voluntary contributions to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General for the Office of Legal Affairs to support the promotion of international law, and expresses its appreciation to those that have contributed;

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<sup>160</sup> See resolution 70/235, para. 37.

<sup>161</sup> Resolution 55/7, annex II, resolution 58/240, annex, and resolution 70/235, annex.

<sup>162</sup> CLCS/40/Rev.1.

<sup>163</sup> CLCS/11, CLCS/11/Corr.1, CLCS/11/Add.1 and CLCS/11/Add.1/Corr.1.

<sup>164</sup> Resolution 70/1.

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49. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution to the capacity-building of developing countries and the promotion of the law of the sea made by the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, which was established by the General Assembly in 1981 in honour of the first President of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, and recalls in this regard the provisions of its resolutions on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law;<sup>165</sup>

50. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have made contributions to the voluntary trust fund for the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, notes that there are insufficient funds available to grant a regular award for the next fellowship session, expresses its commitment to further promote the importance of the Fellowship, and urges States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make voluntary financial contributions in support of the Fellowship;

51. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution of the United Nations-Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellowship Programme to human resources development for developing Member States in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea and related disciplines, as well as the fostering of global interlinkages and continuing capacity development through the alumni programme, and also recognizes with appreciation additional fellowship awards, as well as the new United Nations-Nippon Foundation Sustainable Ocean Programme, which provides for additional Critical Needs Fellowship awards, Thematic Fellowship awards and a training programme to reinforce capacity in the context of the intergovernmental conference on an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction;

52. *Encourages* competent international organizations, the United Nations Development Programme and international financial institutions and funds to consider expanding their programmes within their respective fields of competence for assistance to developing countries and to coordinate their efforts, and recognizes the funding available from the Global Environment Facility, as well as other funds allocated for projects relating to oceans;

## III

### Meeting of States Parties

53. *Welcomes* the report of the twenty-eighth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention;<sup>141</sup>

54. *Notes* that the twenty-eighth Meeting of States Parties, convened by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 72/73, is to be resumed on 15 January 2019, and requests the Secretary-General to provide full conference services, including documentation, as required;

55. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the twenty-ninth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention from 17 to 19 June 2019, with full conference services, including documentation, as required;

## IV

### Peaceful settlement of disputes

56. *Notes with satisfaction* the continued and significant contribution of the Tribunal to the settlement of disputes by peaceful means in accordance with Part XV of the Convention, and underlines the important role and authority of the Tribunal concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Part XI Agreement;

57. *Pays tribute* to the important and long-standing role of the International Court of Justice with regard to the peaceful settlement of disputes concerning the law of the sea;

58. *Notes* that States parties to an international agreement relating to the purposes of the Convention may submit to, inter alia, the Tribunal or the International Court of Justice any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of that agreement submitted in accordance with that agreement, and also notes the possibility, provided for in the Statutes of the Tribunal and the Court, to submit disputes to a chamber;

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<sup>165</sup> Resolutions 69/117, para. 8, 70/116, para. 4, 71/139, para. 7, and 72/115, paras. 7 and 8.



59. *Encourages* States Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to consider making a written declaration, choosing from the means set out in article 287 of the Convention for the settlement of disputes concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Part XI Agreement, bearing in mind the comprehensive character of the dispute settlement mechanism provided for in Part XV of the Convention;

60. *Notes* the successful completion of the first compulsory conciliation under annex V to the Convention, pursuant to section 3 of Part XV, which assisted the parties in reaching agreement on a treaty establishing their maritime boundaries,<sup>166</sup> and encourages States to consider all means to peacefully settle disputes in accordance with international law;

## V

### The Area

61. *Reiterates* the importance of the ongoing elaboration and standardization by the Authority, pursuant to article 145 of the Convention, of rules, regulations and procedures to ensure the effective protection of the marine environment, for, inter alia, the protection and conservation of the natural resources of the Area and for the prevention of damage to the flora and fauna of the marine environment from harmful effects that may arise from activities in the Area;

62. *Notes* that, as at 31 July 2018, the Authority had approved 29 plans of work for exploration for marine mineral resources in the Area and had entered into 15-year contracts with 17 contractors for exploration for polymetallic nodules, 7 contractors for exploration for polymetallic sulphides and 5 contractors for exploration for cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts;<sup>167</sup>

63. *Welcomes* the progress of the work of the Authority on draft regulations for exploitation of mineral resources in the Area, takes note of the development of a road map for the adoption and approval of such regulations, and encourages the Authority to continue its work on the draft regulations as a matter of priority and to provide sufficient opportunities and time for substantive consideration and discussion of successive drafts, and emphasizes the ongoing need for openness and transparency;

64. *Recalls* the relevance of the advisory opinion on the responsibilities and obligations of States sponsoring persons and entities with respect to activities in the Area, issued by the Seabed Disputes Chamber of the Tribunal on 1 February 2011;<sup>168</sup>

65. *Takes note* of the public consultations organized in 2018 by two sponsoring States with regard to the environmental impact assessments submitted to the International Seabed Authority, ahead of technical tests to be held in 2019 in the respective contract areas of their sponsored contractors in the Clarion-Clipperton Zone;

66. *Recognizes* the importance of the responsibilities entrusted to the Authority by articles 143 and 145 of the Convention, which refer to marine scientific research and protection of the marine environment in the Area, respectively;

67. *Welcomes* the decision of the Assembly, at the twenty-fourth session of the Authority, to adopt the strategic plan of the Authority for the period 2019–2023, which provides a uniform basis for the strengthening of existing working practices of the Authority;<sup>169</sup>

68. *Encourages* the Authority to continue its work towards the standardization of marine bathymetric information collected in the Area, in cooperation with relevant international organizations, including the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the International Hydrographic Organization, particularly under the Seabed 2030 project;<sup>170</sup>

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<sup>166</sup> See [A/73/368](#), para. 19.

<sup>167</sup> See [ISBA/24/A/2](#), para. 80.

<sup>168</sup> See [ISBA/17/A/9](#).

<sup>169</sup> See [ISBA/24/A/10](#).

<sup>170</sup> See [ISBA/23/A/2](#).

69. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Authority to make progress on the development of regional environmental management plans in other specific areas in the Area, in particular where there are currently exploration contracts, notes in this regard the workshops held in Qingdao, China, in May 2018, and in Szczecin, Poland, in June 2018, respectively, on the development of regional environmental management plans for cobalt-rich crusts in the north-west Pacific and for polymetallic sulphides in mid-ocean ridges, also notes that a further workshop, dedicated to the review of the status of implementation of the environmental management plan for the Clarion-Clipperton Zone, was scheduled for the second half of 2018, and encourages the Authority to make further progress on the development of regional environmental plans;<sup>171</sup>

## **VI**

### **Effective functioning of the Authority and the Tribunal**

70. *Commends* the progress in the work of the Authority;

71. *Also commends* the work of the Tribunal since its establishment;

72. *Appeals* to all States Parties to the Convention to pay their assessed contributions to the Tribunal in full and on time, and also appeals to States Parties in arrears with their contributions to fulfil their obligations without delay;

73. *Expresses serious concern* about the number of States Parties to the Convention in arrears with their assessed contributions to the Authority, appeals to all States Parties to the Convention to pay their assessed contributions to the Authority in full and on time, and urges them to fulfil their obligations without delay, in particular those States whose exercise of voting rights has been suspended by virtue of article 184 of the Convention, and invites the Secretary-General of the Authority to continue his efforts to recover arrears, including bilateral efforts;

74. *Notes* that the Assembly of the Authority has endorsed the revised schedule of meetings for 2018 and 2019, including two meetings of the Council of the Authority to be held in February–March and July 2019, respectively, and that Assembly meetings are now held following the Council meetings in July, for the convenience of States Parties;

75. *Welcomes* the improvement in the level of attendance at the Assembly in 2018, compared to 2017, and urges all members of the Authority to participate in the meetings of the Assembly;

76. *Also welcomes* the adoption by the Assembly of the terms of reference for the voluntary trust fund to support the participation of members of the Council from developing States in meetings of the Council, expresses its appreciation to the contractors and observers that have made contributions to the voluntary trust fund, and encourages Member States, observers, contractors and other stakeholders to contribute financially to the voluntary trust fund;<sup>172</sup>

77. *Expresses its serious concern* over the negative balance of the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to the decision of the Authority at its eighth session<sup>173</sup> for the purpose of defraying the cost of participation of the members of the Legal and Technical Commission from developing countries and the members of the Finance Committee from developing countries in the meetings of the Commission and of the Committee, expresses its appreciation to States that have made contributions to the voluntary trust fund, and strongly encourages States, observers, contractors and other stakeholders to make contributions to this voluntary trust fund in order to ensure the full participation of all members of the Legal and Technical Commission and the Finance Committee;

78. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have made contributions to the endowment fund for marine scientific research in the Area established by the Authority at its twelfth session,<sup>174</sup> for the purpose of promoting and encouraging the conduct of collaborative marine scientific research in the Area, and encourages States, observers, contractors and other stakeholders to make additional contributions to this fund;

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<sup>171</sup> See ISBA/24/C/3, ISBA/24/C/8, ISBA/24/C/22 and ISBA/24/C/9/Add.1.

<sup>172</sup> See ISBA/23/A/13, ISBA/24/A/2 and ISBA/24/A/11.

<sup>173</sup> See ISBA/8/A/11.

<sup>174</sup> ISBA/12/A/11.

79. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the Tribunal<sup>175</sup> and to the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the Authority,<sup>176</sup>

80. *Emphasizes* the importance of the rules and staff regulations of the Tribunal in promoting the recruitment of a geographically representative staff in the Professional and higher categories, and welcomes the actions taken by the Tribunal in observance of those rules and regulations;

81. *Calls upon* coastal States that have not yet done so to deposit a copy of charts or lists of geographical coordinates showing the outer limit lines of the continental shelf with the Secretary-General of the Authority, as provided for in article 84, paragraph 2, of the Convention;

## VII

### The continental shelf and the work of the Commission

82. *Recalls* that, in accordance with article 76, paragraph 8, of the Convention, information on the limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured shall be submitted by the coastal State to the Commission set up under annex II to the Convention on the basis of equitable geographical representation, that the Commission shall make recommendations to coastal States on matters related to the establishment of the outer limits of their continental shelf, and that the limits of the shelf established by a coastal State on the basis of these recommendations shall be final and binding;

83. *Also recalls* that, in accordance with article 77, paragraph 3, of the Convention, the rights of the coastal State over the continental shelf do not depend on occupation, effective or notional, or on any express proclamation;

84. *Notes with satisfaction* that a considerable number of States Parties to the Convention have submitted information to the Commission regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, in conformity with article 76 of the Convention and article 4 of annex II to the Convention, taking into account the decision of the eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention contained in [SPLOS/72](#), paragraph (a);

85. *Also notes with satisfaction* that a considerable number of States Parties to the Convention have submitted to the Secretary-General, pursuant to the decision of the eighteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,<sup>177</sup> preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and a description of the status of preparation and intended date of submission in accordance with the requirements of article 76 of the Convention and with the Rules of Procedure and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission, and notes with satisfaction that additional submissions referred to in preliminary information have been filed with the Commission;

86. *Further notes with satisfaction* the progress in the work of the Commission<sup>178</sup> and that it is giving current consideration to a number of submissions that have been made regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles;

87. *Takes note* of the 30 recommendations made by the Commission on the submissions of a number of coastal States, and welcomes the fact that summaries of recommendations are being made publicly available in accordance with paragraph 11.3 of annex III to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission;

88. *Notes* that the consideration by the Commission of submissions by coastal States in accordance with article 76 of and annex II to the Convention is without prejudice to the application of other parts of the Convention by States Parties;

89. *Also notes* the considerable number of submissions yet to be considered by the Commission and the demands that this places on its members and the secretariat as provided by the Division, and emphasizes the need to ensure that the Commission can perform its functions expeditiously, efficiently and effectively and maintain its high level of quality and expertise;

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<sup>175</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2167, No. 37925.

<sup>176</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2214, No. 39357.

<sup>177</sup> See [SPLOS/183](#).

<sup>178</sup> See [CLCS/103](#), [CLCS/103/Corr.1](#) and [CLCS/105](#).

## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

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90. *Takes note with appreciation* of the decision of the Commission at its forty-fourth session to continue, during its five-year term of office, to meet for a total of 21 weeks per year by holding three sessions of seven weeks each, and that no two sessions would be sequential,<sup>179</sup> and further notes that more than nine subcommissions are actively considering submissions;<sup>180</sup>

91. *Notes* that the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, in its decisions regarding the conditions of service of the members of the Commission,<sup>181</sup> reaffirmed the obligation of States under the Convention whose experts were serving on the Commission to defray the expenses of the experts they had nominated while the experts are in performance of Commission duties, including the provision of medical coverage, and urged those States to do their utmost to ensure the full participation of those experts in the work of the Commission, including the meetings of subcommissions, in accordance with the Convention;

92. *Also notes* the decision of the twenty-eighth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention to continue the consideration of the conditions of service of the members of the Commission within the open-ended working group established by the twenty-third Meeting of States Parties to the Convention;<sup>141</sup>

93. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take appropriate measures, within overall existing resource levels, to further strengthen the capacity of the Division, serving as the secretariat of the Commission, in order to ensure enhanced support and assistance to the Commission and its subcommissions in their consideration of submissions, as required by paragraph 9 of annex III to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, in particular its human resources, taking into account the need for simultaneous work on several submissions;

94. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary secretariat services to the Commission in accordance with article 2, paragraph 5, of annex II to the Convention;

95. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate and timely measures to ensure secretariat services for the Commission and its subcommissions for the extended duration of time requested in the decisions of the twenty-first and twenty-sixth Meetings of States Parties to the Convention;<sup>150</sup>

96. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, consequently, to continue to allocate appropriate and sufficient resources to the Division to provide adequate services and assistance to the Commission in view of the number of its working weeks;

97. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have made contributions to the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission,<sup>161</sup> and encourages States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make additional contributions to this fund;

98. *Recognizes* the importance of the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 in facilitating the participation of members of the Commission from developing States in the meetings of the Commission, expresses its appreciation to States that have made contributions to this trust fund, expresses its serious concern at the critical lack of funds in this trust fund, which may prevent the Commission from further implementing the decision of the twenty-sixth Meeting of States Parties that requested the Commission to meet for up to 26 weeks, and may preclude it from advancing its work as a result of the potential lack of a quorum at future sessions, and urges States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make additional contributions to this fund;

99. *Authorizes* the use, as appropriate, of the trust fund referred to in paragraph 98 above, and in accordance with the purpose of its terms of reference, to defray the cost of the participation of the Chair of the Commission, when nominated by a developing country, in the Meetings of States Parties to the Convention, and authorizes the Secretary-General, as an interim measure and subject to the availability of funds following the allocation of the required funds to cover the costs of travel and daily subsistence allowance of the members of the Commission from developing States for the sessions of the Commission in 2019, to reimburse those members for the costs of medical travel insurance and short-term medical insurance from that trust fund on a session-by-session basis and subject to a reasonable limit that the Secretary-General shall determine, based on the information regarding medical travel insurance available to him;

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<sup>179</sup> See CLCS/100.

<sup>180</sup> See CLCS/80, CLCS/80/Corr.1, CLCS/83 and CLCS/83/Corr.1.

<sup>181</sup> SPLOS/276 and SPLOS/286.

100. *Takes note* of the written information, provided by the Secretary-General in response to the request in paragraph 81 of resolution 69/245, on options for mechanisms to provide medical insurance coverage to members of the Commission, including costs, and the information provided by the Secretariat during the twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth Meetings of States Parties to the Convention, and expresses its intention to continue to consider these and other options and, if necessary, to further review the terms of reference for the trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 for the purpose of facilitating the participation of members of the Commission from developing States in the meetings of the Commission;

101. *Decides* that, on an exceptional basis and without setting a precedent for other agenda items, the members of the Commission have the option to join the Headquarters medical insurance scheme upon payment of the full cost of the premium;

102. *Emphasizes* the continued need for members of the Commission to have suitable working space for their work at the sessions of the Commission and its subcommissions, recognizes, with regard to the long-term accommodation discussions, that, owing to its exceptional character, the Commission has special requirements for its working space, including the need for fit-for-purpose working space, adequate technical equipment and climate control, and needs to remain located within the same premises as the Division, and emphasizes that, in the context of any relocation of the Division or any change in its working space, full regard will be paid to these special requirements of the Commission;

103. *Approves* the convening by the Secretary-General of the forty-ninth, fiftieth and fifty-first sessions of the Commission, in New York, from 28 January to 15 March 2019, from 1 July to 16 August 2019 and from 14 October to 29 November 2019, respectively, with full conference services, including documentation, for the plenary parts of these sessions,<sup>182</sup> as well as any resumed sessions as may be required by the Commission, and requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to meet these requirements within overall existing resources;

104. *Expresses its firm conviction* about the importance of the work of the Commission, carried out in accordance with the Convention as well as in accordance with its Rules of Procedure, including with respect to the participation of coastal States in relevant proceedings concerning their submissions, and recognizes the continued need for active interaction between coastal States and the Commission;

105. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have exchanged views in order to increase understanding of issues, including expenditures involved, arising from the application of article 76 of the Convention, thus facilitating the preparation of submissions by States, in particular developing States, to the Commission, and encourages States to continue to exchange views;

106. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with Member States, to continue to support workshops or symposiums on scientific and technical aspects of the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, taking into account the need to strengthen capacity-building for developing countries in preparing their submissions;

## **VIII**

### **Maritime safety and security and flag State implementation**

107. *Encourages* States to ratify or accede to international agreements addressing the safety and security of navigation, as well as maritime labour, and to adopt the necessary measures consistent with the Convention and other relevant international instruments aimed at implementing and enforcing the rules contained in those agreements, and emphasizes the need for capacity-building for and assistance to developing States;

108. *Recognizes* that the legal regimes governing maritime safety and maritime security may have common and mutually reinforcing objectives that may be interrelated and could benefit from synergies, and encourages States to take this into account in their implementation;

109. *Emphasizes* the need for further efforts to promote a culture of safety and security in the shipping industry and to address the shortage of adequately trained personnel, and urges the establishment of more centres to provide the required education and training;

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<sup>182</sup> From 4 to 8 February and from 4 to 8 March 2019 during the forty-ninth session, and from 29 July to 2 August and from 13 to 16 August 2019 during the fiftieth session.

110. *Also emphasizes* that safety and security measures should be implemented in support of and with minimal negative effects on seafarers and fishers, especially in relation to their working conditions, and welcomes the ongoing cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Labour Organization in relation to decent work and employment in fisheries and aquaculture and on child labour in fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the work that has been conducted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Labour Organization on the issue of trafficking in persons and forced labour on fishing vessels;

111. *Welcomes* the consideration by the International Maritime Organization of the fair treatment of seafarers, recalls the adoption by the Organization on 4 December 2013 of resolution A.1090(28) on the fair treatment of crew members in respect of shore leave and access to shore-side facilities, and welcomes the new provision on shore leave in the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic,<sup>183</sup> which entered into force on 1 January 2018;

112. *Notes* the themes for the 2018 and 2019 World Maritime Day, “IMO 70: Our Heritage – Better Shipping for a Better Future”, and “Empowering Women in the Maritime Community”, respectively;

113. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978,<sup>184</sup> as amended, and the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel, 1995;

114. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188), the Seafarers’ Identity Documents Convention (Revised), 2003 (No. 185)<sup>185</sup> and the Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) of the International Labour Organization, as well as to the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended, calls upon States to effectively implement their obligations under those instruments, and emphasizes the need to provide to States, at their request, technical cooperation and assistance in this regard;

115. *Invites* States to ratify or accede to the Cape Town Agreement of 2012 on the Implementation of the Provisions of the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977;

116. *Welcomes* ongoing cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Maritime Organization and the International Labour Organization relating to the safety of fishers and fishing vessels, and underlines the urgent need for continued work in that area;

117. *Notes* that in its resolution A.1078(28) of 4 December 2013 the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization revised the International Maritime Organization ship identification number scheme to allow its voluntary application to seagoing ships of 100 gross tonnage and above, including fishing vessels;

118. *Recalls* that all actions taken to combat threats to maritime security must be in accordance with international law, including the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention;

119. *Recognizes* the crucial role of international cooperation at the global, regional, subregional and bilateral levels in combating, in accordance with international law, threats to maritime security, including piracy, armed robbery against ships at sea and terrorist acts against shipping, offshore installations and other maritime interests, through bilateral and multilateral instruments and mechanisms aimed at monitoring, preventing and responding to such threats, the enhanced sharing of information among States relevant to the detection, prevention and suppression of such threats, and the prosecution of offenders with due regard to national legislation, and the need for sustained capacity-building to support such objectives, and in this regard welcomes the Work Plan for Maritime Security 2018–2020, which was reaffirmed at the twenty-fifth Regional Forum of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, held in Singapore on 4 August 2018;

120. *Welcomes* the adoption, in Lomé on 15 October 2016, by the African Union Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa of the Charter on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa;

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<sup>183</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 591, No. 8564.

<sup>184</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1361, No. 23001.

<sup>185</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2304, No. 41069.



## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

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121. *Notes with satisfaction* the organization in Mauritius in April 2018 of the Ministerial Conference on Maritime Security in the Western Indian Ocean, at which participants adopted the Mauritius Declaration on Maritime Security, and Comoros, Djibouti, Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles signed an agreement setting up the Regional Maritime Information Exchange and Sharing Mechanism in the Western Indian Ocean Region and an agreement on coordination of operations at sea in the Western Indian Ocean, and invites States to consider signing these agreements;

122. *Acknowledges* the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in promoting international cooperation and strengthening capacity to combat the problem of transnational organized crime committed at sea;

123. *Notes with concern* that piracy and armed robbery at sea affect a wide range of vessels engaged in maritime activities, and expresses grave concern at the threats posed by piracy and armed robbery at sea to the safety and welfare of seafarers and other persons;

124. *Emphasizes* the importance of promptly reporting incidents to enable accurate information on the scope of the problem of piracy and armed robbery against ships at sea and, in the case of armed robbery against ships at sea, by affected vessels to the coastal State, underlines the importance of effective information-sharing with States potentially affected by incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships at sea, notes with appreciation the important role of the International Maritime Organization and the important contribution of the Information Sharing Centre of the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, based in Singapore, which aspires to be recognized as a centre of excellence within its purpose and mandate, and notes the Maritime Domain Awareness for Trade – Gulf of Guinea mechanism, the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations covering the high-risk area, the Regional Maritime Information Fusion Centre, based in Madagascar, and the Regional Maritime Centre for Operational Coordination in Seychelles;

125. *Urges* all States, in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, to actively combat piracy and armed robbery at sea by adopting measures, including those relating to assistance with capacity-building through training of seafarers, port staff and enforcement personnel in the prevention, reporting and investigation of incidents, by bringing the alleged perpetrators to justice, in accordance with international law, and by adopting national legislation, as well as by providing enforcement vessels and equipment and guarding against fraudulent ship registration;

126. *Encourages* States to ensure effective implementation of international law applicable to combating piracy, as reflected in the Convention, calls upon States to take appropriate steps under their national law to facilitate, in accordance with international law, the apprehension and prosecution of those who are alleged to have committed acts of piracy, including the financing or facilitation of such acts, also taking into account other relevant instruments that are consistent with the Convention, and encourages States to cooperate, as appropriate, with a view to developing their national legislation in this regard;

127. *Invites* all States, the International Maritime Organization, the International Labour Organization and other relevant international organizations and agencies to adopt or recommend, as appropriate, measures to protect the interest and welfare of seafarers and fishers who are victims of pirates, after their release from captivity, including their post-incident care and reintegration into society;

128. *Notes* the compilation of national legislation on piracy on the website of the Division, and encourages the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Division to continue to cooperate with the International Maritime Organization with a view to assisting Member States, upon request, in developing their national laws on piracy;

129. *Recognizes* continued national, bilateral and trilateral initiatives, as well as regional cooperative mechanisms, in accordance with international law, to address piracy, including the financing or facilitation of acts of piracy, and armed robbery at sea, and calls upon States to give immediate attention to adopting, concluding and implementing cooperation agreements at the regional level on combating piracy and armed robbery against ships;

130. *Expresses serious concern* at the inhuman conditions hostages taken at sea face in captivity and also the adverse impact on their families, calls for the immediate release of all hostages taken at sea, and stresses the importance of cooperation among Member States on the issue of hostage-taking at sea;

131. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the ongoing work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Hostage Support Programme, funded by the Board of the trust fund to support initiatives of States countering piracy off the coast of Somalia, in securing the release of seafarers held hostage off the coast of Somalia;<sup>186</sup>

132. *Also welcomes* the recent achievements against piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia resulting from efforts at the global and regional levels, which have resulted in a steady decline in pirate attacks as well as hijackings since 2011, in that regard continues to be gravely concerned by the ongoing threat that piracy and armed robbery at sea continue to pose in the region off the coast of Somalia, notes the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 2442 (2018) of 6 November 2018, as well as the statements by the President of the Council of 25 August 2010<sup>187</sup> and of 19 November 2012,<sup>188</sup> also notes that the authorization in resolution 2442 (2018) and relevant resolutions<sup>189</sup> apply only with respect to the situation in Somalia and shall not affect the rights, obligations or responsibilities of Member States under international law, including any rights or obligations under the Convention, with respect to any other situation, and underscores, in particular, that they shall not be considered as establishing customary international law;

133. *Notes* the continued efforts within the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia following the adoption of Security Council resolution 1851 (2008) of 16 December 2008, including at its twenty-first plenary session, chaired by Mauritius in Nairobi in July 2018, and commends the contributions of all States in the efforts to fight piracy off the coast of Somalia;

134. *Recognizes* the primary responsibility of the Federal Government of Somalia in combating piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia, acknowledges the importance of a comprehensive and sustainable settlement of the situation in Somalia, and emphasizes the need to address the underlying causes of piracy and to assist Somalia and States in the region, at their request, in strengthening institutional capacity to fight piracy and tackle its underlying causes, including the financing or facilitation of acts of piracy, and armed robbery against ships off the coast of Somalia and to bring to justice those involved in such acts;

135. *Notes* the International Maritime Organization guidelines to assist in the investigation of the crimes of piracy and armed robbery against ships, revised interim guidance to shipowners, ship operators and shipmasters on the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high-risk area, revised interim recommendations for flag States regarding the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high-risk area, revised interim recommendations for port and coastal States regarding the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high-risk area, interim guidance to private maritime security companies providing privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high-risk area, and interim guidance for flag States on measures to prevent and mitigate Somalia-based piracy;

136. *Welcomes* the successful cooperation between China and Somalia in transferring suspected pirates in May 2017, as well as the successful prosecution of piracy cases in Belgium, India, Mauritius and Seychelles, as reflected in Security Council resolution 2383 (2017) of 7 November 2017;

137. *Notes with concern* that the continuing limited capacity and domestic legislation to facilitate the custody and prosecution of suspected pirates after their capture has hindered more robust international action against pirates off the coast of Somalia;

138. *Encourages* States to ensure that ships flying their flag apply ship security measures approved in accordance with national and international law;

139. *Notes* the efforts made by the shipping industry to cooperate with the efforts by States regarding piracy off the coast of Somalia, in particular in assisting ships that navigate in that area, and recalls the adoption on 30 November 2011 by the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization of resolution A.1044(27) on piracy and armed robbery against ships in waters off the coast of Somalia;

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<sup>186</sup> See S/2013/623, paras. 11–13, and S/2014/740, para. 10.

<sup>187</sup> S/PRST/2010/16; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2010–31 July 2011* (S/INF/66).

<sup>188</sup> S/PRST/2012/24; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2012–31 July 2013* (S/INF/68).

<sup>189</sup> See Security Council resolution 2316 (2016), first preambular paragraph.

140. *Also notes* the continued implementation of the Code of Conduct concerning the Repression of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in the Western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden (Djibouti Code of Conduct), adopted on 29 January 2009 under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization, in the four thematic areas of information-sharing, training, national legislation and capacity-building, and notes the adoption in January 2017 of the Jeddah Amendment to the Djibouti Code of Conduct;

141. *Expresses its deep concern* at the continuing incidents of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea, in particular violence against innocent crew members of vessels, notes the adoption by the Security Council of resolutions 2018 (2011) of 31 October 2011 and 2039 (2012) of 29 February 2012 and the statement by the President of the Council of 25 April 2016,<sup>190</sup> supports the recent efforts to address this problem at the global and regional levels, recalls the primary role of States in the region to counter the threat and address the underlying causes of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea, welcomes the adoption in Yaoundé on 25 June 2013 of the Code of Conduct concerning the Repression of Piracy, Armed Robbery against Ships, and Illegal Maritime Activity in West and Central Africa, and calls upon States in the region to implement the Code of Conduct as soon as possible and consistent with international law, in particular the Convention;

142. *Urges* States to ensure the full implementation of resolution A.1069(28) of the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization on prevention and suppression of piracy, armed robbery against ships and illicit maritime activity in the Gulf of Guinea;

143. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation<sup>191</sup> and the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf,<sup>191</sup> invites States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the 2005 Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation<sup>192</sup> and the 2005 Protocol to the 1988 Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf,<sup>193</sup> and urges States parties to take appropriate measures to ensure the effective implementation of those instruments through the adoption of legislation, where appropriate;

144. *Calls upon* States to effectively implement the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code and the amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea,<sup>194</sup> and to work with the International Maritime Organization to promote safe and secure shipping while ensuring freedom of navigation;

145. *Urges* all States, in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, to improve the protection of offshore installations by adopting measures related to the prevention, reporting and investigation of acts of violence against installations, in accordance with international law, and by implementing such measures through national legislation to ensure proper and adequate enforcement;

146. *Emphasizes* the progress in regional cooperation, including the efforts of littoral States, on the enhancement of safety, security and environmental protection in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, and the effective functioning of the Cooperative Mechanism on Safety of Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (the Cooperative Mechanism) to promote dialogue and facilitate close cooperation between the littoral States, user States, shipping industries and other stakeholders in line with article 43 of the Convention, notes with appreciation the convening of the eleventh Cooperation Forum, in Singapore on 24 and 25 September 2018, the eleventh Project Coordination Committee Meeting, in Singapore on 28 September 2018, the forty-third Tripartite Technical Experts Group Meeting, in Singapore on 26 and 27 September 2018, and the twentieth and twenty-first Aids to Navigation Fund Committee Meetings, in Penang, Malaysia, on 3 and 4 May 2018 and in Malacca, Malaysia, on 20 and 21 September 2018, respectively, the events being key pillars of the Cooperative Mechanism, also notes with appreciation the important role of the Information Sharing Centre of the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, based in Singapore, and calls upon States to give immediate attention to adopting, concluding and implementing cooperation agreements at the regional level;

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<sup>190</sup> S/PRST/2016/4; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2015–31 December 2016 (S/INF/71)*.

<sup>191</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1678, No. 29004.

<sup>192</sup> International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.15/21.

<sup>193</sup> International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.15/22.

<sup>194</sup> International Maritime Organization, documents SOLAS/CONF.5/32 and SOLAS/CONF.5/34, and document MSC 81/25/Add.1, annex 2, resolution MSC.202(81), introducing the long-range identification and tracking of ships system.

147. *Recognizes* that some transnational organized criminal activities threaten legitimate uses of the oceans and endanger the lives of people at sea, as well as the livelihoods and security of coastal communities;

148. *Notes* that transnational organized criminal activities are diverse and may be interrelated in some cases and that criminal organizations are adaptive and take advantage of the vulnerabilities of States, in particular coastal and small island developing States in transit areas, and calls upon States and relevant intergovernmental organizations to increase cooperation and coordination at all levels to detect and suppress the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and illicit trafficking in firearms, in accordance with international law;

149. *Recognizes* the importance of enhancing international cooperation at all levels to fight transnational organized criminal activities, including illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, within the scope of the United Nations instruments against illicit drug trafficking, as well as the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and illicit trafficking in firearms and criminal activities at sea falling within the scope of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;<sup>157</sup>

150. *Encourages* States to cooperate at the bilateral, regional and global levels to prevent, combat and eradicate illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora where such trafficking occurs via maritime routes, through, inter alia, the use of applicable international legal instruments as appropriate, such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the United Nations Convention against Corruption<sup>195</sup> and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,<sup>196</sup> and reiterates its call upon Member States expressed in its resolution 71/326 of 11 September 2017 to make illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora a serious crime, in accordance with their national legislation and as defined in article 2 (b) and article 3, paragraph 1 (b), of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, in order to ensure that, where the offence is transnational in nature and involves an organized criminal group, effective international cooperation can be afforded under the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime to prevent and combat transnational organized crime;

151. *Notes with grave concern* the recent proliferation of, and endangerment of lives through, the smuggling of migrants by sea, underscores the necessity to address such situations in accordance with applicable international law, and encourages States, acting nationally or through relevant global or regional organizations, as appropriate, to provide technical assistance and capacity-building to flag, port and coastal States, upon request, to enhance their capabilities to prevent smuggling of migrants and human trafficking by sea;

152. *Calls upon* States, in that context, to take measures in accordance with relevant international obligations to prevent and combat all forms of trafficking in persons, to identify victims of human trafficking, including among migrant flows, and to provide trafficking victims with appropriate protection and assistance, according to their national law and policy;

153. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>197</sup> the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>198</sup> and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>199</sup> and to take appropriate measures to ensure their effective implementation;

154. *Calls upon* States to ensure freedom of navigation, the safety of navigation and the rights of transit passage, archipelagic sea lanes passage and innocent passage in accordance with international law, in particular the Convention;

155. *Welcomes* the work of the International Maritime Organization relating to the protection of shipping lanes of strategic importance and significance, and in particular in enhancing safety, security and environmental protection

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<sup>195</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

<sup>196</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

<sup>197</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2241, No. 39574.

<sup>198</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2326, No. 39574.

<sup>199</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

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in straits used for international navigation, and calls upon that Organization, States bordering straits and user States to continue their cooperation to keep such straits safe, secure and environmentally protected and open to international navigation at all times, consistent with international law, in particular the Convention;

156. *Calls upon* user States and States bordering straits used for international navigation to continue to cooperate by agreement on matters relating to navigational safety, including safety aids for navigation, and the prevention, reduction and control of pollution from ships, and welcomes developments in this regard;

157. *Calls upon* States that have accepted the amendments to regulation XI-1/6 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974,<sup>200</sup> to implement the Code of International Standards and Recommended Practices for a Safety Investigation into a Marine Casualty or Marine Incident,<sup>201</sup> which took effect on 1 January 2010, and, in particular, to comply with the mandatory conduct of a marine safety investigation into very serious marine casualties and submission of a marine safety investigation report to the International Maritime Organization to identify trends and develop knowledge and risk-based recommendations;

158. *Takes note* of International Maritime Organization resolution A.1091(28) of 4 December 2013 on guidelines on the preservation and collection of evidence following an allegation of a serious crime having taken place on board a ship or following a report of a missing person from a ship, and pastoral and medical care of persons affected;

159. *Recognizes* the important work of the International Hydrographic Organization, calls upon States that have not yet done so to consider becoming members of that Organization, encourages all its members to actively consider, in accordance with applicable rules and procedures, applications of States that wish to become members of that Organization, and urges all States to work with that Organization to increase the coverage of hydrographic information on a global basis to enhance capacity-building and technical assistance and to promote safe navigation, particularly through the production and use of accurate electronic navigational charts, especially in areas used for international navigation, in ports and where there are vulnerable or protected marine areas;

160. *Also recognizes* the importance of navigational warning services based on marine meteorological data for the safety of ships and lives at sea and the optimization of navigation routes, and notes the collaboration between the World Meteorological Organization and the International Maritime Organization for the enhancement of these services and their extension to the Arctic region;

161. *Encourages* States to continue their efforts in the implementation of all areas of the Action Plan for the Safety of Transport of Radioactive Material, approved by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency in March 2004;

162. *Notes* that cessation of the transport of radioactive materials through the regions of small island developing States is an ultimate desired goal of small island developing States and some other countries, and recognizes the right of freedom of navigation in accordance with international law; that States should maintain dialogue and consultation, in particular under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the International Maritime Organization, with the aim of improved mutual understanding, confidence-building and enhanced communication in relation to the safe maritime transport of radioactive materials; that States involved in the transport of such materials are urged to continue to engage in dialogue with small island developing States and other States to address their concerns; and that these concerns include the further development and strengthening, within the appropriate forums, of international regulatory regimes to enhance safety, disclosure, liability, security and compensation in relation to such transport;

163. *Acknowledges*, in the context of paragraph 162 above, the potential environmental and economic impacts of maritime incidents and accidents on coastal States, in particular those related to the transport of radioactive materials, and emphasizes the importance of effective liability regimes in that regard;

164. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007;<sup>202</sup>

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<sup>200</sup> International Maritime Organization, document MSC 84/24/Add.1, annex 3, resolution MSC.257(84).

<sup>201</sup> International Maritime Organization, document MSC 84/24/Add.1, annex 1, resolution MSC.255(84).

<sup>202</sup> International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.16/19.

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165. *Requests* States to take appropriate measures with regard to ships flying their flag or of their registry to address hazards that may be caused by wrecks and drifting or sunken cargo to navigation or the marine environment;

166. *Calls upon* States to ensure that masters on ships flying their flag take the steps required by relevant instruments<sup>203</sup> to provide assistance to persons in distress at sea, and urges States to cooperate and to take all measures necessary to ensure the effective implementation of the amendments to the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue<sup>204</sup> and to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea<sup>205</sup> relating to the delivery of persons rescued at sea to a place of safety, as well as of the associated Guidelines on the Treatment of Persons Rescued at Sea;<sup>206</sup>

167. *Recognizes* that all States must fulfil their search and rescue responsibilities in accordance with international law, including the Convention, reaffirms the ongoing need for the International Maritime Organization and other relevant organizations to assist, in particular, developing States both to increase and improve their search and rescue capabilities, including, as appropriate, through the establishment of additional rescue coordination centres and regional sub-centres, and to take effective action to address, to the extent feasible, the issue of unseaworthy ships and small craft within their national jurisdiction, and emphasizes in this regard the importance of cooperation for these purposes, including within the framework of the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979;<sup>207</sup>

168. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant actors in relation to disembarkation of persons rescued at sea, notes in this regard the need to implement all relevant and applicable international instruments and the importance of cooperation among States as provided for in those instruments, and underlines in particular the importance of full respect for the principle of non-refoulement in accordance with applicable international law;

169. *Invites* States to implement the Revised Guidelines on the Prevention of Access by Stowaways and the Allocation of Responsibilities to Seek the Successful Resolution of Stowaway Cases, adopted by the Maritime Safety Committee of the International Maritime Organization in its resolution MSC.448(99) of 24 May 2018 and by the Facilitation Committee of that Organization in its resolution FAL.13(42) of 8 June 2018;

170. *Calls upon* States to continue to cooperate in developing comprehensive approaches to international migration and development, including through dialogue on all their aspects;

171. *Also calls upon* States to take measures to protect fibre-optic submarine cables and to fully address issues relating to these cables, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the Convention;

172. *Encourages* greater dialogue and cooperation among States and the relevant regional and global organizations through workshops and seminars on the protection and maintenance of fibre-optic submarine cables to promote the security of such critical communications infrastructure;

173. *Also encourages* the adoption by States of laws and regulations addressing the breaking or injury of submarine cables or pipelines beneath the high seas done wilfully or through culpable negligence by a ship flying its flag or by a person subject to its jurisdiction, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the Convention;

174. *Affirms* the importance of maintenance, including the repair, of submarine cables, undertaken in conformity with international law, as reflected in the Convention;

175. *Reaffirms* that flag, port and coastal States all bear responsibility for ensuring the effective implementation and enforcement of international instruments relating to maritime security and safety, in accordance with international law, in particular the Convention, and that flag States have primary responsibility that requires further strengthening,

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<sup>203</sup> Convention on International Civil Aviation, 1944, annex 12, International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979, as amended, United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982, and International Convention on Salvage, 1989.

<sup>204</sup> International Maritime Organization, document MSC 78/26/Add.1, annex 5, resolution MSC.155(78).

<sup>205</sup> International Maritime Organization, document MSC 78/26/Add.1, annex 3, resolution MSC.153(78).

<sup>206</sup> International Maritime Organization, document MSC 78/26/Add.2, annex 34, resolution MSC.167(78).

<sup>207</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1405, No. 23489.



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including through increased transparency of ownership of vessels and the monitoring of organizations authorized to carry out surveys and issue certificates on their behalf, taking into account the entry into force of the Code for Recognized Organizations on 1 January 2015;<sup>208</sup>

176. *Urges* flag States without an effective maritime administration and appropriate legal frameworks to establish or enhance the necessary infrastructure, legislative and enforcement capabilities to ensure effective compliance with and implementation and enforcement of their responsibilities under international law, in particular the Convention, and, until such action is taken, to consider declining the granting of the right to fly their flag to new vessels, suspending their registry or not opening a registry, and calls upon flag and port States to take all measures consistent with international law necessary to prevent the operation of substandard vessels;

177. *Recognizes* that international shipping rules and standards adopted by the International Maritime Organization in respect of maritime safety, efficiency of navigation and the prevention and control of marine pollution, complemented by best practices of the shipping industry, have led to a significant reduction in maritime accidents and pollution incidents;

178. *Notes* that audits of Member States under the International Maritime Organization Member State Audit Scheme became mandatory in January 2016 under nine mandatory International Maritime Organization instruments and are to be carried out in accordance with the Framework and the Procedures for the International Maritime Organization Member State Audit Scheme and using the International Maritime Organization Instruments Implementation Code (III Code);<sup>209</sup>

179. *Encourages* States and competent international organizations and bodies to support the effective implementation of the requirements of the International Code for Ships Operating in Polar Waters (Polar Code), adopted by the International Maritime Organization under the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea and the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, as amended,<sup>210</sup> including relevant requirements of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended;<sup>211</sup>

180. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization on matters related to passenger ship safety in light of recent accidents, and encourages States and competent international organizations and bodies to support continued efforts, including technical cooperation activities, to improve passenger ship safety;

181. *Recognizes* that maritime safety can also be improved through effective port State control, the strengthening of regional arrangements and increased coordination and cooperation among them and increased transparency and information-sharing, making ample use of information systems, such as the International Maritime Organization Global Integrated Shipping Information System,<sup>212</sup> including among safety and security sectors;

182. *Encourages* flag States to take appropriate measures sufficient to achieve or maintain recognition by intergovernmental arrangements that recognize satisfactory flag State performance, including, as appropriate, satisfactory port State control examination results on a sustained basis, with a view to improving quality shipping and furthering flag State implementation of relevant instruments under the International Maritime Organization as well as relevant goals and objectives of the present resolution;

183. *Takes note* with appreciation of the important contribution of the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities to the improvement and harmonization of marine aids to navigation for the reduction of marine accidents, increased safety of life and property at sea and the protection of the marine environment;

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<sup>208</sup> International Maritime Organization, resolutions MSC.349(92) and MEPC.237(65).

<sup>209</sup> See International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolutions A.1018(26), A.1067(28), A.1068(28) and A.1070(28).

<sup>210</sup> International Maritime Organization, document MEPC 62/24/Add.1, annex 19, resolution MEPC.203(62).

<sup>211</sup> International Maritime Organization, resolutions MSC.385(94) and MEPC.264(68) and related amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (resolution MSC.386(94)) and the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (resolution MEPC.265(68)).

<sup>212</sup> International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolutions A.1029(26) and A.1074(28).

## IX

### Marine environment and marine resources

184. *Emphasizes once again* the importance of the implementation of Part XII of the Convention in order to protect and preserve the marine environment and its living marine resources against pollution and physical degradation, and calls upon all States to cooperate and take measures consistent with the Convention, directly or through competent international organizations, for the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

185. *Calls upon* States to implement the Sustainable Development Goals outlined in the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” as adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 70/1, including Goal 14 to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and recalls that the Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible;

186. *Reiterates*, in this regard, the call made in the declaration entitled “Our ocean, our future: call for action” for action to be taken on an urgent basis to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development;<sup>213</sup>

187. *Recalls* that, in “The future we want”, States committed themselves to protect and restore the health, productivity and resilience of oceans and marine ecosystems, to maintain their biodiversity, enabling their conservation and sustainable use for present and future generations, and to effectively apply an ecosystem approach and the precautionary approach in the management, in accordance with international law, of activities having an impact on the marine environment, to deliver on all three dimensions of sustainable development;

188. *Reaffirms* paragraph 119 of resolution 61/222 of 20 December 2006 regarding ecosystem approaches and oceans, including the proposed elements of an ecosystem approach, means to achieve implementation of an ecosystem approach and requirements for improved application of an ecosystem approach, and in this regard:

(a) Notes that continued environmental degradation in many parts of the world and increasing competing demands require an urgent response and the setting of priorities for management actions aimed at conserving ecosystem integrity;

(b) Also notes that ecosystem approaches to ocean management should be focused on managing human activities in order to maintain and, where needed, restore ecosystem health to sustain goods and environmental services, provide social and economic benefits for food security, sustain livelihoods in support of international development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>214</sup> and conserve marine biodiversity;

(c) Recalls that States should be guided in the application of ecosystem approaches by a number of existing instruments, in particular the Convention, which sets out the legal framework for all activities in the oceans and seas, and its implementing Agreements, as well as other commitments, such as those contained in the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>215</sup> and the World Summit on Sustainable Development call for the application of an ecosystem approach by 2010,<sup>152</sup> and in this context encourages States to enhance their efforts towards applying such an approach;

(d) Encourages States to cooperate and coordinate their efforts and take, individually or jointly, as appropriate, all measures, in conformity with international law, including the Convention and other applicable instruments, to address impacts on marine ecosystems within and beyond areas of national jurisdiction, taking into account the integrity of the ecosystems concerned;

189. *Encourages* competent organizations and bodies that have not yet done so to incorporate an ecosystem approach into their mandates, as appropriate, in order to address impacts on marine ecosystems;

190. *Acknowledges* the request by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session, in paragraph 6 of its resolution 2/10, to the United Nations Environment Programme to step up its work, including

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<sup>213</sup> Resolution 71/312, annex.

<sup>214</sup> Resolution 55/2.

<sup>215</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

through its Regional Seas Programme, on assisting countries and regions in the application of the ecosystem approach to managing the marine and coastal environment, including through enabling intersectoral cooperation in integrated coastal zone management and marine spatial planning;<sup>216</sup>

191. *Encourages* States, directly or through competent international organizations, to consider the further development and application, as appropriate and consistent with international law, including the Convention, of environmental impact assessment processes covering planned activities under their jurisdiction or control that may cause substantial pollution of or significant and harmful changes to the marine environment, and also encourages the communication of the reports of the results of such assessments to the competent international organizations in accordance with the Convention;

192. *Recognizes* the importance of improving understanding of the impact of climate change on oceans and seas, and recalls that, in “The future we want”, States noted that sea level rise and coastal erosion are serious threats for many coastal regions and islands, particularly in developing countries and in this regard called upon the international community to enhance its efforts to address these challenges;

193. *Takes note* of the findings of reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, including its *Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C*, that increasing warming amplifies the exposure of small islands, low-lying coastal areas and deltas to the risks associated with sea level rise;

194. *Also takes note* of the decision by the International Law Commission at its seventieth session to include the topic “Sea-level rise in relation to international law” in its long-term programme of work;<sup>217</sup>

195. *Notes* the eighteenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, which focused on the theme “The effects of climate change on oceans”, during which delegations discussed, inter alia, the environmental, social and economic impacts on all States, in particular developing States, of the effects of climate change on the oceans, as well as the urgent need to address such effects and impacts, the need for international cooperation and coordination, including concerted and immediate action to combat the effects of climate change on the oceans, as well as the need for continued coordinated international focus in recognition that, owing to the interconnected nature of the oceans, ensuing impacts cannot be overcome by any single State and, in particular, in view of the grave implications for countries with low-lying coasts, some of whose very existence is under threat;<sup>218</sup>

196. *Notes with appreciation* that, at its forty-third session, held in Nairobi from 11 to 13 April 2016, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change decided to prepare a special report on climate change and oceans and the cryosphere;<sup>219</sup>

197. *Welcomes* the Paris Agreement<sup>220</sup> and its early entry into force on 4 November 2016, encourages all its parties to fully implement the Agreement and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>221</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, as appropriate, as soon as possible, and recognizes the importance of raising awareness of the adverse impact of climate change on the marine environment, marine biodiversity and sea level;

198. *Also welcomes*, in this regard, the convening of the twenty-fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the third part of the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement in Katowice, Poland, from 3 to 14 December 2018;

199. *Notes with concern* the severe impacts on coastal communities of extreme weather events, such as tropical cyclones and associated storm surges, and encourages cooperative actions by relevant United Nations bodies and organizations, including the World Meteorological Organization and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic

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<sup>216</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/71/25)*, annex.

<sup>217</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/73/10)*.

<sup>218</sup> [A/72/95](#).

<sup>219</sup> See Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, decision IPCC/XLIII-6.

<sup>220</sup> See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.

<sup>221</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Commission through the Joint WMO-IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology, to assist States in improving forecasting of such events and its application in multi-hazard early warning systems and risk management;

200. *Also notes with concern* the approximately 30 per cent increase in the acidity of ocean surface waters since the beginning of the industrial era<sup>222</sup> and the wide range of impacts associated with the continuing and alarming acidification of the world's oceans, and urges States to make significant efforts to tackle the causes of ocean acidification, recognizing countries' national circumstances and respective capabilities, and to further study and minimize its impacts, to enhance local, national, regional and global cooperation in this regard, including the sharing of relevant information and the development of worldwide capacity, including in developing countries, to measure ocean acidification, and to take steps to make marine ecosystems healthier and, as a result, more resilient, to the extent possible, to the impacts of ocean acidification;

201. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States called for support for initiatives that address ocean acidification and the impacts of climate change on marine and coastal ecosystems and resources and in this regard reiterated the need to work collectively to prevent further ocean acidification, as well as to enhance the resilience of marine ecosystems and of the communities whose livelihoods depend on them, and to support marine scientific research, monitoring and observation of ocean acidification and particularly vulnerable ecosystems, including through enhanced international cooperation in this regard;

202. *Recognizes* the attention paid to ocean acidification at the fourteenth and eighteenth meetings of the Informal Consultative Process, and commits itself to continue to pay attention to this important issue, including by taking into account the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment (the first World Ocean Assessment), the ongoing work of the Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre and the scientific cooperation fostered by the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network;

203. *Notes* the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, notes with concern its findings on the acidification of the oceans and the substantial risks to marine ecosystems, especially polar ecosystems, coral reefs, plankton and other organisms which have a calcareous exoskeleton, or a shell, like crustaceans, and the potentially detrimental consequences for fisheries and livelihoods, as well as the findings of the World Meteorological Organization contained in its annual *Greenhouse Gas Bulletin*, and notes its decision to foster collaboration with organizations and institutions that address the carbon budget of the ocean,<sup>223</sup> and in this regard encourages States and competent international organizations and other relevant institutions, individually and in cooperation, to urgently pursue further research on ocean acidification, especially programmes of observation and measurement, noting in particular the continued work under the Convention on Biological Diversity and to increase national, regional and global efforts to address levels of ocean acidity and the negative impact of such acidity on vulnerable marine ecosystems, particularly coral reefs;

204. *Also notes*, in this regard, the holding in Monaco, from 15 to 17 October 2017, of the fourth International Workshop on the Socioeconomic Impacts of Ocean Acidification, organized by the Scientific Centre of Monaco and the Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre of the International Atomic Energy Agency, which focused on the impacts on coral reefs, which are particularly vulnerable to ocean acidification and to bleaching induced or exacerbated by global warming, and proposed ecological and socioeconomic solutions, in particular the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions, the control of land-based pollution, the enhancement of coral reef resilience, as well as the promotion of sustainable economies, the monitoring of coral reef health, and restoration programmes;

205. *Encourages* States, individually or in collaboration with relevant international organizations and bodies, to enhance their scientific activity to better understand the effects of climate change on the marine environment and marine biodiversity, support continued coordination of scientific work to study and minimize the impacts of ocean acidification and develop ways and means of adaptation, taking into account, as appropriate, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches;

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<sup>222</sup> As stated in the 2013 report of Working Group I of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on the physical science basis of climate change.

<sup>223</sup> World Meteorological Organization, Seventeenth World Meteorological Congress, Geneva, 25 May–12 June 2015, resolution 46 (Cg-17).

206. *Notes* the vital role that coastal blue carbon ecosystems, including mangroves, tidal marshes and seagrasses, play in climate adaptation and mitigation through carbon sequestration, and in increasing the resilience of coastal ecosystems to ocean acidification, and the range of other benefits that these ecosystems provide, including sustainable livelihoods, food security and biodiversity conservation, and coastal protection, and encourages States and relevant international institutions and organizations to work collaboratively to protect and restore coastal blue carbon ecosystems;

207. *Recalls* that, in “The future we want”, States noted with concern that the health of oceans and marine biodiversity are negatively affected by marine pollution, including marine debris, especially plastic, persistent organic pollutants, heavy metals and nitrogen-based compounds, from a number of marine and land-based sources, including shipping and land run-off, and that States committed to take action to reduce the incidence and impacts of such pollution on marine ecosystems, including through the effective implementation of relevant conventions adopted in the framework of the International Maritime Organization, and the follow-up of relevant initiatives such as the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities,<sup>224</sup> as well as the adoption of coordinated strategies to this end, and that they further committed to take action, by 2025, based on collected scientific data, to achieve significant reductions in marine debris to prevent harm to the coastal and marine environment;

208. *Encourages* States, in accordance with the commitment expressed in “The future we want” and based on collected scientific data, to take action by 2025 to achieve significant reductions in marine debris to prevent harm to the coastal and marine environment;

209. *Notes* the discussions at the seventeenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, which focused on the theme “Marine debris, plastics and microplastics” and which, inter alia, highlighted that the size of the problem had increased exponentially since the topic of marine debris was addressed at the sixth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, in 2005, noted that marine debris in general, and plastics in particular, were some of the greatest environmental concerns of our time, along with climate change, ocean acidification and loss of biodiversity, discussed prevention and emphasized the need to address the issue, both downstream, through improved mechanisms for waste management, disposal and recycling, and upstream, by addressing consumption and production patterns, including through awareness-raising campaigns;<sup>225</sup>

210. *Recognizes* the need for better understanding of the sources, amounts, pathways, distribution, trends, nature and impacts of marine debris, especially plastics and microplastics, and to examine possible measures and best available techniques and environmental practices to prevent its accumulation and minimize its levels in the marine environment, and welcomes in this regard the work conducted under the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection, led by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and its report entitled “Sources, fate and effects of microplastics in the marine environment – a global assessment”, and the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme on marine plastic debris and microplastics, which reviews best-available knowledge and experiences in this regard and gives recommendations for further steps to reduce plastic litter and microplastic in the oceans;<sup>226</sup>

211. *Notes* that the *UNEP Frontiers 2016 Report* identifies microplastics as one of six key emerging environmental issues, and calls upon States to implement resolution 3/7 on marine litter and microplastics, adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its third session, held in Nairobi from 4 to 6 December 2017;<sup>145</sup>

212. *Acknowledges* the decision of the United Nations Environment Assembly in paragraph 10 of its resolution 3/7 to convene, subject to the availability of resources, meetings of an open-ended ad hoc expert group to further examine the barriers to and options for combating marine plastic litter and microplastics from all sources, especially land-based sources, and its request to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to provide a progress update to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fourth session on the programme of work, including on the result of the meetings;

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<sup>224</sup> [A/51/116](#), annex II.

<sup>225</sup> See [A/71/204](#).

<sup>226</sup> [UNEP/EA.2/5](#).

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213. *Welcomes* the activities of relevant United Nations bodies and organizations, in particular the United Nations Environment Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization and other intergovernmental organizations, to address the sources and impacts of marine debris, including through the Global Partnership on Marine Litter, as well as actions relating to marine debris taken under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals,<sup>227</sup> in particular the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to that Convention at its twelfth meeting of resolution 12.20 on the management of marine debris, and notes the work of the International Whaling Commission on assessing the impacts of marine debris on cetaceans;

214. *Encourages* States to further develop partnerships with industry and civil society to raise awareness of the extent of the impact of marine debris on the biological diversity, health and productivity of the marine environment and consequent economic loss and to cooperate with other States, industry and civil society, as appropriate, on environmentally sound and cost-effective measures to prevent and reduce, as appropriate, marine debris and microplastics in the marine environment, including through strengthened cooperation under the Global Partnership on Marine Litter;

215. *Urges* States to integrate the issue of marine debris into national and, as appropriate, regional strategies dealing with waste management, especially in the coastal zone, ports and maritime industries, including recycling, reuse, reduction and disposal, to consider developing an integrated waste management infrastructure and to encourage the development of appropriate economic incentives with the aim of reducing marine debris to address this issue, including the development of cost-recovery systems that provide an incentive to use port reception facilities and discourage ships from discharging marine debris at sea, and support for measures to prevent, reduce and control pollution from any source, including land-based sources, such as community-based coastal and waterway clean-up and monitoring activities, and encourages States to cooperate regionally and subregionally to identify potential sources and coastal and oceanic locations where marine debris aggregates and to develop and implement joint prevention programmes for marine debris and to develop and implement environmentally sound options for recovery programmes, as well as to raise awareness of the issue of marine debris and the need to consider environmentally sound options for its removal;

216. *Notes* the activities carried out by organizations at the regional level to develop and implement regional action plans and other joint prevention and recovery programmes for marine debris, and further notes in this regard the second Extraordinary Intergovernmental Meeting of the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia, held in Bangkok on 25 and 26 April 2018, which adopted new five-year Strategic Directions focusing on land-based pollution, including marine litter, nutrients and waste water, as well as ecosystem-based coastal and marine planning and management, the first Executive Board meeting of the secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, held in Apia on 10 and 11 September 2018, which endorsed and approved the Pacific marine litter action plan, which sets out the policy context and key actions to minimize marine litter across the Pacific islands countries and territories, and the twenty-second Intergovernmental Meeting of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan, in Toyama, Japan, from 19 to 21 December 2017;

217. *Also notes* the work done under the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation framework to share best practices, enable innovative waste management financing and encourage public-private partnerships in order to prevent and reduce marine debris, including the workshops on “Capacity Building for Marine Debris Prevention and Management in the APEC Region” in Busan, Republic of Korea, from 19 to 22 June 2018 and on “Innovative Marine Debris Solutions” in Beijing on 26 July 2018, and the APEC Marine Debris Stakeholder Meeting on “Improving Data and Coordination and Developing New Partnerships” in Bali, Indonesia, on 2 and 3 November 2018;

218. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to become parties to international agreements addressing the protection and preservation of the marine environment and its living marine resources against the introduction of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens and marine pollution from all sources, including the dumping of wastes and other matter, and other forms of physical degradation, as well as agreements that provide for preparedness for, response to and cooperation on pollution incidents and that include provisions on liability and compensation for damage resulting from marine pollution, and to adopt the necessary measures consistent with international law, including the Convention, aimed at implementing and enforcing the rules contained in those agreements;

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<sup>227</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1651, No. 28395.



219. *Recalls* that, in “The future we want”, States noted the significant threat that alien invasive species pose to marine ecosystems and resources and committed to implement measures to prevent the introduction and manage the adverse environmental impacts of alien invasive species, including, as appropriate, those adopted in the framework of the International Maritime Organization;

220. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships’ Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004,<sup>228</sup> and also encourages States to consider implementing the Guidelines for the control and management of ships’ biofouling to minimize the transfer of invasive aquatic species, adopted by the International Maritime Organization in resolution MEPC.207(62) of 15 July 2011;

221. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization to prevent pollution from ships, including through the designation of Special Areas under the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, as amended,<sup>229</sup> welcomes the adoption by the Marine Environment Protection Committee of an action plan to address marine plastic litter from ships,<sup>230</sup> and encourages the International Maritime Organization to continue working on the prevention of pollution from ships;

222. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Protocol of 1997 (annex VI – Regulations for the Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships) to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, as amended;<sup>231</sup>

223. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization and the resolution on International Maritime Organization policies and practices related to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from ships,<sup>232</sup> and in this regard also notes its adoption of an initial strategy on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from ships;<sup>233</sup>

224. *Urges* States to cooperate in correcting the shortfall in port waste reception facilities in accordance with the action plan to address the inadequacy of port waste reception facilities developed by the International Maritime Organization;

225. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009<sup>234</sup> to facilitate its entry into force;

226. *Encourages* continued cooperation between the parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal<sup>235</sup> and the International Maritime Organization on regulations on the prevention of pollution from ships;

227. *Notes* the role of the Basel Convention in protecting the marine environment against the adverse effects which may result from such wastes;

228. *Notes with concern* the potential for serious environmental consequences resulting from oil spill incidents or pollution incidents involving hazardous or noxious substances, urges States, consistent with international law, to cooperate, directly or through competent international organizations, and share best practices, in the fields of protection of the marine environment, human health and safety, prevention, emergency response and mitigation, and in this regard encourages the undertaking of and collaboration on scientific research, including marine scientific research, to better understand the consequences of marine oil spills or marine spills involving hazardous or noxious substances;

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<sup>228</sup> International Maritime Organization, document BWM/CONF/36, annex.

<sup>229</sup> International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, annex IV (Regulations for the prevention of pollution by sewage from ships) and annex V (Regulations for the prevention of pollution by garbage from ships).

<sup>230</sup> International Maritime Organization, resolution MEPC.310(73).

<sup>231</sup> International Maritime Organization, document MEPC 62/24/Add.1, annex 19, resolution MEPC.203(62).

<sup>232</sup> International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.963(23).

<sup>233</sup> International Maritime Organization, document MEPC 72/17/Add.1, annex 11, resolution MEPC.304(72).

<sup>234</sup> International Maritime Organization, document SR/CONF/45.

<sup>235</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1673, No. 28911.

## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

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229. *Encourages* States, in accordance with international law, including the Convention and other relevant instruments, either bilaterally or regionally, to jointly develop and promote contingency plans for responding to pollution incidents, as well as other incidents that are likely to have significant adverse effects on the marine environment and biodiversity;

230. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation, 1990,<sup>236</sup> and the Protocol on Preparedness, Response and Cooperation to Pollution Incidents by Hazardous and Noxious Substances, 2000, of the International Maritime Organization, and in this regard to consider developing and joining regional arrangements to enhance international cooperation for combating major oil and hazardous substances pollution incidents;

231. *Encourages* States to consider becoming parties to the 2010 Protocol to the 1996 International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea,<sup>237</sup>

232. *Recognizes* that most of the pollution load of the oceans emanates from land-based activities and affects the most productive areas of the marine environment, and calls upon States, as a matter of priority, to implement the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities and to take all appropriate measures to fulfil the commitments of the international community embodied in the Bali Declaration on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, adopted at the Fourth Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, held in Bali, Indonesia, on 31 October and 1 November 2018;

233. *Welcomes* the continued work of States, the United Nations Environment Programme and regional organizations in the implementation of the Global Programme of Action, and encourages increased emphasis on the link between fresh water, the coastal zone and marine resources in the implementation of international development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and of the time-bound targets in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),<sup>152</sup> in particular the target on sanitation, and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development;<sup>238</sup>

234. *Expresses its concern* regarding the spreading of hypoxic dead zones and harmful algal blooms in oceans as a result of eutrophication fuelled by riverine run-off of fertilizers, sewage outfall and reactive nitrogen resulting from the burning of fossil fuels and resulting in serious consequences for ecosystem functioning, and calls upon States to enhance their efforts to reduce eutrophication, particularly by reducing total nutrient pollution from land-based sources and, to this effect, to continue to cooperate within the framework of relevant international organizations, in particular the Global Programme of Action and the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management and Global Wastewater Initiative, including through capacity-building initiatives and efforts to monitor, via the Global Ocean Observing System, stressors such as harmful algal blooms, areas of hypoxia, sargassum seaweed invasions and jellyfish blooms, to assess their possible linkage to eutrophication and their potential adverse impacts on the marine environment as well as on human health;

235. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to take, as soon as possible, the domestic measures necessary to enable them to meet their obligations upon ratification and, thereafter, to ratify, accept, approve or accede to the Minamata Convention on Mercury;<sup>239</sup>

236. *Calls upon* all States to ensure that urban and coastal development projects and related land-reclamation activities are carried out in a responsible manner that protects the marine habitat and environment and mitigates the negative consequences of such activities;

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<sup>236</sup> Ibid., vol. 1891, No. 32194.

<sup>237</sup> International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.17/10.

<sup>238</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>239</sup> United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/CONF/4, annex II.

237. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 (the London Protocol);

238. *Recalls* the resolution of the thirtieth Consultative Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 (the London Convention) and the third Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Protocol, held from 27 to 31 October 2008, on the regulation of ocean fertilization,<sup>240</sup> in which the Contracting Parties agreed, inter alia, that the scope of the London Convention and Protocol includes ocean fertilization activities and that, given the present state of knowledge, ocean fertilization activities other than for legitimate scientific research should not be allowed, and that scientific research proposals should be assessed on a case-by-case basis using an assessment framework that was subsequently developed and adopted in 2010 by the Contracting Parties to the London Convention and Protocol, namely, the Assessment Framework for Scientific Research Involving Ocean Fertilization,<sup>241</sup> and also agreed that, to this end, such other activities should be considered as contrary to the aims of the London Convention and Protocol and should not currently qualify for any exemption from the definition of dumping in article III, paragraph 1 (b), of the London Convention and article 1, paragraph 4.2, of the London Protocol;<sup>241</sup>

239. *Notes* the continued work of the Contracting Parties to the London Convention and Protocol towards a global, transparent and effective control and regulatory mechanism for ocean fertilization activities and other activities that fall within the scope of the London Convention and Protocol and have the potential to cause harm to the marine environment, and notes the resolution adopted by the eighth Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Protocol, held from 14 to 18 October 2013, on the amendment to the London Protocol to regulate the placement of matter for ocean fertilization and other marine geoengineering activities;<sup>242</sup>

240. *Recalls* decision IX/16 C, adopted at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Bonn, from 19 to 30 May 2008,<sup>243</sup> in which the Conference of the Parties, inter alia, bearing in mind the ongoing scientific and legal analysis occurring under the auspices of the London Convention and Protocol, requested parties and urged other Governments, in accordance with the precautionary approach, to ensure that ocean fertilization activities were not carried out until there was an adequate scientific basis on which to justify such activities, including an assessment of associated risks, and that a global, transparent and effective control and regulatory mechanism was in place for those activities, with the exception of small-scale scientific research studies within coastal waters, and stated that such studies should be authorized only if justified by the need to gather specific scientific data, should be subject to a thorough prior assessment of the potential impacts of the research studies on the marine environment, should be strictly controlled and should not be used for generating and selling carbon offsets or for any other commercial purposes, and takes note of decision X/29, adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Nagoya, Japan, from 18 to 29 October 2010,<sup>244</sup> in which the Conference of the Parties requested parties to implement decision IX/16 C;

241. *Also recalls* that, in “The future we want”, States stressed their concern about the potential environmental impacts of ocean fertilization, recalled in this regard the decisions related to ocean fertilization adopted by the relevant intergovernmental bodies, and resolved to continue addressing ocean fertilization with utmost caution, consistent with the precautionary approach;

242. *Encourages* States that have not done so to become parties to regional seas conventions and the protocols thereto addressing the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

243. *Invites* States, in particular those States with advanced technology and marine capabilities, to explore prospects for improving cooperation with and assistance to developing States, in particular least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, with a view to better integrating into national policies and programmes sustainable and effective development in the marine sector;

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<sup>240</sup> International Maritime Organization, document LC 30/16, annex 6, resolution LC-LP.1 (2008).

<sup>241</sup> International Maritime Organization, document LC 32/15 and Corr.1, annex 5, resolution LC-LP.2 (2010).

<sup>242</sup> International Maritime Organization, document LC 35/15, annex 4, resolution LP.4(8).

<sup>243</sup> See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I.

<sup>244</sup> See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex.

244. *Notes* the information compiled by the Secretariat<sup>245</sup> in relation to the assistance available to and measures that may be taken by developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to realize the benefits of sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans, as provided by States and competent international organizations and global and regional funding agencies, and urges them to provide information for the annual report of the Secretary-General and for incorporation on the website of the Division;

## **X**

### **Marine biodiversity**

245. *Reaffirms* its central role relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction;

246. *Notes* the work and contributions of States and relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies in the context of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, and the extensive and complex discussions and exchange of views at the four sessions of the Preparatory Committee established by resolution [69/292](#): Development of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, which concluded on 21 July 2017, as well as the report of the Preparatory Committee and the recommendations contained therein;<sup>246</sup>

247. *Recalls*, in this regard, its resolution [72/249](#), and welcomes the holding of the organizational meeting from 16 to 18 April 2018 to discuss organizational matters, including the process for the preparation of the zero draft of the instrument;

248. *Welcomes* the holding of the first session of the intergovernmental conference convened under resolution [72/249](#), from 4 to 17 September 2018, and takes note of the substantive discussions that addressed the topics identified in the package agreed in 2011, namely, the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, in particular, together and as a whole, marine genetic resources, including questions on the sharing of benefits, measures such as area-based management tools, including marine protected areas, environmental impact assessments, and capacity-building and the transfer of marine technology, and further takes note that the President of the conference will prepare, as part of the preparations for the second session of the conference, a document with the aim of facilitating focused discussions and text-based negotiations, containing treaty language and reflecting options concerning the four elements of the package;

249. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the second and third sessions of the intergovernmental conference from 25 March to 5 April 2019 and from 19 to 30 August 2019;

250. *Recognizes* the abundance and diversity of marine genetic resources and their value in terms of the benefits, goods and services they can provide;

251. *Also recognizes* the importance of research on marine genetic resources for the purpose of enhancing the scientific understanding, potential use and application, and enhanced management of marine ecosystems;

252. *Encourages* States and international organizations, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes and partnerships, to continue in a sustainable and comprehensive way to support, promote and strengthen capacity-building activities, in particular in developing countries, in the field of marine scientific research, taking into account, in particular, the need to improve capacities in the field of taxonomy;

253. *Notes* the work under the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity<sup>247</sup> and the Convention on Biological Diversity elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity,<sup>248</sup> and, while reiterating the central role of the General Assembly relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine

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<sup>245</sup> [A/63/342](#).

<sup>246</sup> [A/AC.287/2017/PC.4/2](#).

<sup>247</sup> See [A/51/312](#), annex II, decision II/10.

<sup>248</sup> United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, annex, decision VII/5, annex I.

biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, notes with appreciation the complementary technical and scientific work done by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

254. *Reaffirms* the need for States, individually or through competent international organizations, to urgently consider ways to integrate and improve, based on the best available scientific information and the precautionary approach and in accordance with the Convention and related agreements and instruments, the management of risks to the marine biodiversity of seamounts, cold water corals, hydrothermal vents and certain other underwater features;

255. *Invites* Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to implement the voluntary specific workplan on biodiversity in cold water areas within the jurisdictional scope of that Convention, adopted in 2016 by the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to that Convention;<sup>249</sup>

256. *Calls upon* States and international organizations to urgently take further action to address, in accordance with international law, destructive practices that have adverse impacts on marine biodiversity and ecosystems, including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals;

257. *Calls upon* States to strengthen, in a manner consistent with international law, in particular the Convention, the conservation and management of marine biodiversity and ecosystems, and national policies in relation to area-based management tools, including marine protected areas;

258. *Recalls* that, in “The future we want”, States reaffirmed the importance of area-based conservation measures, including marine protected areas, consistent with international law and based on best available scientific information, as a tool for conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components, and noted decision X/2 of the tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, that by 2020, 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are to be conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures;<sup>244</sup>

259. *Encourages* States, in this regard, to further progress towards the establishment of marine protected areas, including representative networks, and calls upon States to further consider options to identify and protect ecologically or biologically significant areas, consistent with international law and on the basis of the best available scientific information;

260. *Invites* States to identify measures to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 11, enshrined in decision X/2 of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and takes note of the announcements made by some States in this regard;

261. *Reaffirms* the need for States to continue and intensify their efforts, directly and through competent international organizations, to develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools for conserving and managing vulnerable marine ecosystems, including the possible establishment of marine protected areas, consistent with international law, as reflected in the Convention, and based on the best scientific information available;

262. *Notes* the work of States, relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, in the assessment of scientific information on and compilation of ecological criteria for the identification of marine areas that may require protection, in the light of the objective of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools, such as ecosystem approaches and the establishment of marine protected areas consistent with international law, as reflected in the Convention, and based on scientific information, including representative networks;<sup>152</sup>

263. *Recalls* that the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, at its ninth meeting, adopted scientific criteria for identifying ecologically or biologically significant marine areas in need of protection in open-ocean waters and deep-sea habitats and scientific guidance for selecting areas to establish a representative network of marine protected areas, including in open-ocean waters and deep-sea habitats,<sup>250</sup> and notes the ongoing work under the Convention on Biological Diversity on the application of the scientific criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas through the organization of a series of regional workshops;

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<sup>249</sup> United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/25, sect. I, decision XIII/11, annex II.

<sup>250</sup> United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I, decision IX/20, annexes I and II.

264. *Also recalls* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has developed guidance for the identification of vulnerable marine ecosystems through the International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas, and notes its ongoing work to support application of the Guidelines by States and to maintain a database of vulnerable marine ecosystems;

265. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Sustainable Ocean Initiative under the Convention on Biological Diversity, and notes in this regard the second meeting of the Sustainable Ocean Initiative Global Dialogue with Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fisheries Bodies on Accelerating Progress Towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and Sustainable Development Goals, held in Seoul from 10 to 13 April 2018;

266. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization to identify and designate as Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas marine areas which are recognized for their significance in terms of ecological, socioeconomic or scientific criteria and are vulnerable to damage by international shipping activities;<sup>251</sup>

267. *Acknowledges* the Micronesia Challenge, the Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape project, the Caribbean Challenge and the Coral Triangle Initiative, which seek to create and link domestic marine protected areas to better facilitate ecosystem approaches, notes the Phoenix Islands Protected Area as a multinational partnership, and reaffirms the need for further international cooperation, coordination and collaboration in support of such initiatives;

268. *Reiterates its support* for the International Coral Reef Initiative, notes that the thirty-third International Coral Reef Initiative General Meeting was held in Monaco from 5 to 7 December 2018, and supports the elaborated programme of work of the Convention on Biological Diversity on marine and coastal biological diversity related to coral reefs under the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity;

269. *Recalls* that, in “The future we want”, States recognized the significant economic, social and environmental contributions of coral reefs, in particular to islands and other coastal States, as well as the significant vulnerability of coral reefs and mangroves to impacts, including from climate change, ocean acidification, overfishing, destructive fishing practices and pollution, and supported international cooperation with a view to conserving coral reef and mangrove ecosystems and realizing their social, economic and environmental benefits, as well as facilitating technical collaboration and voluntary information-sharing;

270. *Encourages* States and relevant international institutions to improve efforts to address coral bleaching by, inter alia, improving monitoring to predict and identify bleaching events, supporting and strengthening action taken during such events and improving strategies to manage reefs to support their natural resilience and enhance their ability to withstand other pressures, including ocean acidification, and in this regard also encourages States to implement the priority actions to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 10 for coral reefs and closely associated ecosystems, adopted by the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;<sup>252</sup>

271. *Encourages* States to cooperate, directly or through competent international bodies, in exchanging information in the event of accidents involving vessels on coral reefs and in promoting the development of economic assessment techniques for both restoration and non-use values of coral reef systems;

272. *Emphasizes* the need to mainstream sustainable coral reef management and integrated watershed management into national development strategies, as well as into the activities of relevant United Nations agencies and programmes, international financial institutions and the donor community;

273. *Notes* that ocean noise has potential significant adverse impacts on living marine resources, affirms the importance of sound scientific studies in addressing this matter, encourages further research, studies and consideration of the impacts of ocean noise on living marine resources, notes the work of States and competent international organizations in that regard, and requests the Division to continue to compile the peer-reviewed scientific studies it receives from Member States and intergovernmental organizations pursuant to paragraph 107 of resolution [61/222](#) and, as appropriate, to make them, or references and links to them, available on its website;

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<sup>251</sup> International Maritime Organization, Revised Guidelines for the Identification and Designation of Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas, Assembly resolution A.982(24).

<sup>252</sup> See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, sect. I.



274. *Also notes* the discussions at the nineteenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, from 18 to 22 June 2018, on the theme of anthropogenic underwater noise, during which delegations, inter alia, expressed concern over the potential social, economic and environmental impacts of anthropogenic underwater noise due to the growth of ocean-related human activities, which has resulted in increased sound in many parts of the ocean, as well as the potential impacts of anthropogenic underwater noise on different marine species and, in view of the continuing gaps in knowledge and lack of data, stressed the urgent need for further research and international cooperation to assess and address the potential effects of anthropogenic underwater noise in all ocean areas;<sup>253</sup>

275. *Calls upon* States to consider appropriate cost-effective measures and approaches to assess and address the potential socioeconomic and environmental impacts of anthropogenic underwater noise, taking into account the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches and the best available scientific information, as appropriate;

276. *Notes* the approval by the International Maritime Organization of Guidelines for the Reduction of Underwater Noise from Commercial Shipping to Address Adverse Impacts on Marine Life, and invites the International Maritime Organization to promote and encourage their implementation for existing ships and new vessels, when appropriate, including by promoting measures that may reduce cavitation,<sup>254</sup> and encourages States to continue their work at the International Maritime Organization to enhance understanding of the extent to which improved ship technology, including efficient propeller design, could lead to reduced introduction of underwater noise in the oceans;

277. *Also notes* the convening of a workshop on ship noise mitigation technologies, in Halifax, Canada, on 28 and 29 November 2018, and hosted by the Government of Canada and the Canadian Network for Innovative Shipbuilding, Marine Research and Training, and the Ship Noise Mitigation Technologies Workshop, in London from 30 January to 1 February 2019, hosted by the Government of Canada and the International Maritime Organization, focusing on, inter alia, the linkages between the energy efficiency of ships and underwater noise, and propeller and ship designs to reduce underwater noise;

278. *Encourages* further research into technologies to reduce the impact of underwater noise on marine life;

## **XI**

### **Marine science**

279. *Calls upon* States, individually or in collaboration with each other or with competent international organizations and bodies, to continue to strive to improve understanding and knowledge of the oceans and the deep sea, including, in particular, the extent and vulnerability of deep sea biodiversity and ecosystems, by increasing their marine scientific research activities in accordance with the Convention;

280. *Encourages*, in that regard, relevant international organizations and other donors to consider supporting the Endowment Fund of the International Seabed Authority in order to promote the conduct of collaborative marine scientific research in the international seabed area by supporting the participation of qualified scientists and technical personnel from developing countries in relevant programmes, initiatives and activities;

281. *Notes with concern* that human-related threats, such as marine debris, ship strikes, underwater noise, persistent contaminants, coastal development activities, oil spills and discarded fishing gear, together may severely impact marine life, including its higher trophic levels, and calls upon States and competent international organizations to cooperate and coordinate their research efforts in this regard so as to reduce these impacts and preserve the integrity of the whole marine ecosystem, while fully respecting the mandates of relevant international organizations;

282. *Welcomes* the programme entitled “Promote and facilitate the conduct of marine scientific research under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea” of the Division and the Korea Maritime Institute, carried out in cooperation with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission with the aim of assisting developing countries, especially small island developing States, to build their capacities in the field of marine scientific research;

283. *Invites* all relevant organizations, funds, programmes and bodies within the United Nations system, in consultation with interested States, to coordinate relevant activities with regional and national marine scientific and

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<sup>253</sup> See [A/73/124](#).

<sup>254</sup> International Maritime Organization, document MEPC.1/Circ.833, annex.

technological centres in small island developing States, as appropriate, to ensure the more effective achievement of their objectives in accordance with relevant United Nations small island developing States development programmes and strategies;

284. *Welcomes* the resolution adopted by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission at its twenty-eighth session, held in Paris from 18 to 25 June 2015, regarding the adoption of the Second International Indian Ocean Expedition as an important catalyst project linking Indian Ocean processes to the global ocean and atmosphere, officially launched in Goa, India, on 4 December 2015 for an initial period of five years, invites States to participate in this initiative, and notes that two nodes of the Second International Indian Ocean Expedition Joint Project Office have been established to coordinate operations of the expedition in Perth, Australia, and Hyderabad, India;

285. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, with the advice of the Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea, on the development of procedures for the implementation of Parts XIII and XIV of the Convention;

286. *Notes* that the depth of a significant percentage of the world's oceans, seas and waterways has yet to be measured directly and that bathymetric knowledge underpins the safe, sustainable and cost-effective execution of almost every human activity in, on or under the sea;

287. *Welcomes* the work of the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans project under the International Hydrographic Organization and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and, in particular, the outcome of the Forum for Future Ocean Floor Mapping, held in June 2016 in Monaco, and the subsequent development by the Guiding Committee of the Seabed 2030 project for improving bathymetry globally;

288. *Encourages* Member States to consider contributing to mechanisms that encourage the widest possible availability of all bathymetric data, so as to support the sustainable development, management and governance of the marine environment;

289. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution to marine biodiversity research of the Ocean Biogeographic Information System, a free and open-access data holding and sharing facility, hosted by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission;

290. *Welcomes* the increasing attention being focused on oceans as a potential source of renewable energy, and notes in this regard the summary of discussions of the Informal Consultative Process at its thirteenth meeting;<sup>255</sup>

291. *Stresses* the importance of increasing the scientific understanding of the oceans-atmosphere interface, including through participation in ocean observing programmes and geographic information systems, such as the Global Ocean Observing System, sponsored by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Meteorological Organization and the International Council for Science, particularly considering their role in monitoring and forecasting climate change and variability and in the establishment and operation of tsunami warning systems;

292. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Member States towards the establishment and operation of regional and national tsunami warning and mitigation systems, also welcomes the continued collaboration of the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations in this effort, further welcomes the development and recent dissemination of the new Enhanced Tsunami Products for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System and the development of Enhanced Tsunami Products for the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions, which will assist countries in the Pacific and the Caribbean to assess tsunami threats and issue warnings, and encourages Member States to establish and sustain their national warning and mitigation systems, within a global, ocean-related multi-hazard approach, as necessary, to reduce loss of life and damage to national economies and strengthen the resilience of coastal communities to natural disasters;

293. *Stresses* the need for continued efforts in developing mitigation and preparedness measures for natural disasters, particularly following tsunami events caused by earthquakes, such as the 11 March 2011 event in Japan;

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<sup>255</sup> [A/67/120](#).

294. *Urges* States to take necessary action and to cooperate in relevant organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the World Meteorological Organization, to address damage to ocean data buoys deployed and operated in accordance with international law, including through education and outreach about the importance and purpose of these buoys and by strengthening these buoys against such damage and increasing reporting of such damage;

295. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission to initiate preparation of the implementation plan for the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021–2030) in consultation with Member States, specialized agencies, funds, programmes and bodies of the United Nations, as well as other intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and relevant stakeholders;

296. *Requests* that the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission continue to provide information on the development of the implementation plan and regularly consult with, and report to, Member States on the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science and its implementation;

297. *Invites* the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly on the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science through his report on oceans and the law of the sea, on the basis of information to be provided by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission;

298. *Invites* UN-Oceans and its participants to collaborate with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission on the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science;

## **XII**

### **Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects**

299. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the regular scientific assessment of the state of the marine environment in order to enhance the scientific basis for policymaking;

300. *Reaffirms* the principles guiding the Regular Process and its objective and scope as agreed upon at the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole in 2009;

301. *Recalls* that the Regular Process, as established under the United Nations, is accountable to the General Assembly and is an intergovernmental process guided by international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and other applicable international instruments, and takes into account relevant Assembly resolutions;

302. *Reaffirms* the importance of the first World Ocean Assessment as the outcome of the first cycle of the Regular Process;

303. *Reiterates its concern* at the findings of the first World Ocean Assessment that the world's ocean is facing major pressures simultaneously with such great impacts that the limits of its carrying capacity are being, or, in some cases, have been reached, and that delays in implementing solutions to the problems that have already been identified as threatening to degrade the world's ocean will lead, unnecessarily, to incurring greater environmental, social and economic cost;

304. *Recalls* the importance of making Governments, United Nations system organizations, bodies, funds and programmes, intergovernmental organizations, the scientific community and the general public aware of the first World Ocean Assessment and the Regular Process, and recognizes with appreciation the activities undertaken in this regard during various intergovernmental meetings;

305. *Also recalls* the technical abstracts of the first World Ocean Assessment on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, the ocean and the Sustainable Development Goals under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the impacts of climate change and related changes in the atmosphere on the oceans, prepared in accordance with the programme of work for the period 2017–2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process;

306. *Further recalls* that advance unedited copies of the technical abstracts were made available to the Preparatory Committee established by resolution 69/292, the eighteenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process and the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14;

307. *Recalls* the decision that, in the first cycle, the scope of the Regular Process focused on establishing a baseline, and that the scope of the second cycle would extend to evaluating trends and identifying gaps;

308. *Also recalls* the decision that the Regular Process shall be overseen and guided by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, and that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall facilitate the delivery of the outputs of the second cycle as outlined in the programme of work for the period 2017–2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process;

309. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important role of the Co-Chairs and the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole in providing guidance during the intersessional periods, including in operationalizing the second cycle of the Regular Process;

310. *Welcomes* the holding of the tenth and eleventh meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, on 28 February and 1 March 2018 and on 23 and 24 August 2018, respectively, in accordance with paragraph 330 of resolution [72/73](#);

311. *Takes note* of the recommendations and guidance adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole at its tenth meeting,<sup>256</sup> and endorses the recommendations adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group at its eleventh meeting;<sup>257</sup>

312. *Reaffirms* its decision that in the elaboration of an outline, the Group of Experts of the Regular Process should proceed on the basis of the preparation of a single comprehensive assessment, and notes the approval by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole of the outline for the second world ocean assessment in accordance with paragraph 330 of resolution [72/73](#);<sup>258</sup>

313. *Takes note* of the preliminary timetable and implementation plan for the second world ocean assessment, prepared by the Group of Experts in consultation with the secretariat of the Regular Process;

314. *Recalls* the endorsement by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole of the terms of reference and working methods of the Group of Experts for the second cycle of the Regular Process, prepared in accordance with paragraph 310 of resolution [71/257](#),<sup>259</sup> and takes note of the guidance for contributors, part II, prepared by the Group of Experts pursuant to paragraph 310 of resolution [71/257](#),<sup>260</sup>

315. *Notes* the appointment of an additional expert to the Group of Experts in accordance with paragraph 287 of resolution [70/235](#), and urges regional groups that have not yet done so to appoint experts to the Group of Experts, taking into account the need to ensure geographical distribution and adequate expertise in socioeconomic disciplines;

316. *Welcomes* the expressions of interest of individuals who served in the Pool of Experts during the first cycle of the Regular Process to serve in the Pool of Experts for the second cycle;

317. *Also welcomes* the appointment of additional experts to the Pool of Experts for the second cycle of the Regular Process by States and through recommendations from relevant intergovernmental organizations, in accordance with the mechanism for the establishment of the Pool of Experts for the second cycle of the Regular Process,<sup>261</sup> and encourages the further appointment of experts to the Pool of Experts;

318. *Recognizes with appreciation* the continued work of the members of the Group of Experts and that of the Pool of Experts of the Regular Process in the implementation of the second cycle of the Regular Process;

319. *Welcomes* the designation by States of national focal points pursuant to paragraph 315 of resolution [72/73](#), and urges States that have not yet done so to designate their national focal points as soon as possible;

320. *Notes* the finalization and adoption by the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole of guidelines to assist the second round of workshops of the second cycle of the Regular Process,<sup>262</sup> prepared by the Group of Experts in consultation with the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group and the secretariat of the Regular Process;

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<sup>256</sup> See [A/73/74](#).

<sup>257</sup> [A/73/373](#), sect. III.

<sup>258</sup> [A/73/74](#), annex I.

<sup>259</sup> [A/72/89](#), annex.

<sup>260</sup> See [A/73/74](#), annex II. For part I of the guidance for contributors, see [A/72/494](#), annex IV.

<sup>261</sup> [A/72/494](#), annex I.

<sup>262</sup> Available from the web page of the Regular Process maintained by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.

## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

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321. *Takes note* of the summaries of the first round of regional workshops in support of the second cycle of the Regular Process, held in Lisbon in September 2017, in Auckland, New Zealand, in October 2017, in Camboriú, Brazil, in November 2017, in Bangkok in November 2017 and in Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania, in December 2017, which informed the preparation of the outline for the second world ocean assessment and will assist in the identification of additional experts for the Pool of Experts and in the identification of issues for consideration at the multi-stakeholder dialogue and capacity-building partnership event;

322. *Also takes note* of the offers to host regional workshops for the second round of regional workshops, in 2018, in support of the second cycle of the Regular Process;

323. *Recalls* the crucial importance of the Regular Process for ongoing ocean-related intergovernmental processes and its possible inputs, including for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the development of an international legally binding instrument, under the Convention, on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Informal Consultative Process, as outlined in the programme of work for the period 2017–2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process;

324. *Also recalls* the importance of ensuring that assessments, such as those included in the Global Sustainable Development Report and those prepared under the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and the Regular Process, support one another and avoid unnecessary duplication, and also recalls the importance of compatibility and synergies between such assessments and assessments at the regional level;

325. *Requests* intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide information on recent and ongoing assessments and other processes at the regional and global levels relevant to the Regular Process in order for the secretariat to update the inventory of recent and ongoing assessments and other processes at the regional and global levels relevant to the Regular Process;

326. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work undertaken thus far by the secretariat in compiling a capacity-building inventory of needs and opportunities relevant for the Regular Process, in accordance with the programme of work, based on information contributed by relevant United Nations system organizations, bodies, funds and programmes and by relevant intergovernmental organizations;

327. *Invites* States and non-governmental organizations, as well as intergovernmental organizations that have not already done so, to provide relevant information for inclusion in the capacity-building inventory of needs and opportunities relevant for the Regular Process being compiled and maintained by the secretariat;

328. *Takes note* of the endorsement by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole of the agenda for the multi-stakeholder dialogue and capacity-building partnership event to be held in 2019, and notes that the Ad Hoc Working Group will consider the outcome of the dialogue and event at its twelfth meeting;

329. *Recalls* its invitation, in paragraph 326 of resolution [72/73](#), to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Maritime Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Meteorological Organization and relevant United Nations system organizations, bodies, funds and programmes, as appropriate, to assist in the implementation of the second cycle of the Regular Process with regard to the following activities: awareness-raising, the identification of experts for the Pool of Experts, technical and scientific support for the Bureau and the Group of Experts, hosting meetings of the writing teams and capacity-building;

330. *Also recalls* the adoption by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission at its twenty-ninth session, from 21 to 29 June 2017, of decision IOC-XXIX/8.2, in particular regarding the provision of technical and scientific support to the second cycle of the Regular Process in accordance with the guidance of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole;

331. *Further recalls* its invitation, in paragraph 328 of resolution [72/73](#), to relevant intergovernmental organizations to contribute, as appropriate, to the activities of the second cycle;



332. *Urges* States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make financial contributions to the voluntary trust fund<sup>263</sup> and to make other contributions to the Regular Process;

333. *Requests* the Bureau to continue to implement the decisions and guidance of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole during the intersessional period, including by providing oversight of the delivery of the programme of work for the period 2017–2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process;

334. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the twelfth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on 29 and 30 July 2019, with a view to providing recommendations to the General Assembly on progress in the implementation of the second cycle, and encourages the widest possible attendance of participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group;

### **XIII**

#### **Regional cooperation**

335. *Notes with appreciation* efforts and initiatives at the regional level, in various regions, to further the implementation of the Convention and to respond, including through capacity-building, to issues related to maritime safety and security, the conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources, the protection and preservation of the marine environment and the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity;

336. *Invites* States and international organizations to enhance their cooperation to better protect the marine environment;

337. *Notes* the Caribbean-focused Assistance Fund, which is intended to facilitate, mainly through technical assistance, the voluntary undertaking of maritime delimitation negotiations between Caribbean States, notes once again the Fund for Peace: Peaceful Settlement of Territorial Disputes, established by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States in 2000 as a primary mechanism, given its broader regional scope, for the prevention and resolution of pending territorial, land border and maritime boundary disputes, and calls upon States and others in a position to do so to contribute to these funds;

338. *Recalls* the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway<sup>264</sup> and the modalities set forth for strengthened action on a range of small island developing States challenges and priorities, including challenges related to the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources, and the preservation of the marine environment, reaffirms its commitment to work with small island developing States towards full implementation of the Samoa Pathway to ensure its success, also recalls the decision to convene, in September 2019, a one-day high-level review of the progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Samoa Pathway,<sup>265</sup> and notes with appreciation the holding, in 2018, of regional preparatory meetings as well as an interregional meeting for small island developing States to review the progress and implementation of the Samoa Pathway at the national and regional levels;<sup>266</sup>

339. *Recognizes* the results of the International Polar Year, 2007–2008 with particular emphasis on new knowledge about the linkages between environmental change in the polar regions and global climate systems, and encourages States and scientific communities to strengthen their cooperation in this respect;

340. *Acknowledges* the important contributions to scientific understanding of the marine environment and its resources, as well as the scientific advice for their sustainable use, provided by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea in its wide-ranging cooperation with organizations at the regional level under the Convention for the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, 1964;<sup>267</sup>

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<sup>263</sup> See resolution 69/245, para. 278.

<sup>264</sup> Resolution 69/15, annex.

<sup>265</sup> Resolution 71/225, para. 19.

<sup>266</sup> See resolution 72/217, para. 28.

<sup>267</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 652, No. 9344.



## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

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341. *Welcomes* regional cooperation, and in this regard notes the Pacific Oceanscape Framework as an initiative to enhance cooperation among coastal States in the Pacific island region to foster marine conservation and sustainable development;

342. *Notes with appreciation* the various cooperative efforts displayed by States at the regional and subregional levels, and in this regard welcomes initiatives, such as the Integrated Assessment and Management of the Gulf of Mexico Large Marine Ecosystem;

343. *Acknowledges* relevant cooperation among the members of the Zone of Peace and Cooperation of the South Atlantic;

344. *Recalls* the decision of the Assembly of the African Union in January 2015 to adopt Agenda 2063, also recalls that the African Union launched the Decade of African Seas and Oceans (2015–2025), and notes that the African Day of the Seas and Oceans is to be celebrated annually on 25 July;

345. *Notes* the adoption of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 by the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Vienna from 3 to 5 November 2014,<sup>268</sup> following the comprehensive 10-year review of the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,<sup>269</sup> and also notes the need for cooperation to address the development needs and challenges faced by landlocked developing countries associated with, inter alia, their lack of direct territorial access to the sea, remoteness and isolation from world markets, in line with the objectives of the Vienna Programme of Action;

346. *Also notes* the efforts of the Sargasso Sea Commission, led by the Government of Bermuda, to raise awareness of the ecological significance of the Sargasso Sea;

347. *Further notes* the entry into force, on 23 May 2018, of the Arctic Council Agreement on Enhancing International Arctic Scientific Cooperation;

348. *Notes* the cooperation between the OSPAR Commission established by the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic and the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission;

## XIV

### Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea

349. *Welcomes* the report of the Co-Chairs on the work of the Informal Consultative Process at its nineteenth meeting, which focused on the theme of anthropogenic underwater noise;<sup>140</sup>

350. *Recognizes* the role of the Informal Consultative Process as a unique forum for comprehensive discussions on issues related to oceans and the law of the sea, consistent with the framework provided by the Convention and chapter 17 of Agenda 21,<sup>142</sup> and that the perspective of the three pillars of sustainable development should be further enhanced in the examination of the selected topics;

351. *Welcomes* the work of the Informal Consultative Process and its contribution to improving coordination and cooperation between States and strengthening the annual debate of the General Assembly on oceans and the law of the sea by effectively drawing attention to key issues and current trends;

352. *Also welcomes* efforts to improve and focus the work of the Informal Consultative Process, and in that respect recognizes the primary role of the Informal Consultative Process in integrating knowledge, the exchange of opinions among multiple stakeholders and coordination among competent agencies, and enhancing awareness of topics, including emerging issues, while promoting the three pillars of sustainable development, and recommends that the Informal Consultative Process devise a transparent, objective and inclusive process for the selection of topics and panellists so as to facilitate the work of the General Assembly during informal consultations concerning the annual resolution on oceans and the law of the sea;

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<sup>268</sup> Resolution 69/137, annex II.

<sup>269</sup> Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003 (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.

353. *Recalls* the need to strengthen and improve the efficiency of the Informal Consultative Process, and encourages States, intergovernmental organizations and programmes to provide guidance to the Co-Chairs to this effect, particularly before and during the preparatory meeting for the Informal Consultative Process;

354. *Decides* to continue the Informal Consultative Process for the next two years, in accordance with resolution [54/33](#), with a further review of its effectiveness and utility by the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session;

355. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution [54/33](#), the twentieth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, in New York from 10 to 14 June 2019, to provide it with the facilities necessary for the performance of its work, including documentation, and to arrange for support to be provided by the Division, in cooperation with other relevant parts of the Secretariat, as appropriate;

356. *Expresses its continued serious concern* regarding the lack of resources available in the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to resolution [55/7](#) for the purpose of assisting developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing States, in attending the meetings of the Informal Consultative Process, and urges States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make additional contributions to the trust fund;

357. *Decides* that those representatives from developing countries who are invited by the Co-Chairs, in consultation with Governments, to make presentations during the meetings of the Informal Consultative Process shall receive priority consideration in the disbursement of funds from the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to resolution [55/7](#) in order to cover the costs of their travel, and shall also be eligible to receive daily subsistence allowance subject to the availability of funds after the travel costs of all other eligible representatives from those countries mentioned in paragraph 356 above have been covered;

358. *Also decides* that, in its deliberations on the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea, the Informal Consultative Process shall focus its discussions at its twentieth meeting, in 2019, on the theme “Ocean Science and the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development”;

## **XV**

### **Coordination and cooperation**

359. *Encourages* States to work closely with and through international organizations, funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies of the United Nations system and relevant international conventions, to identify emerging areas of focus for improved coordination and cooperation and how best to address these issues;

360. *Expresses its concern* at the desecration of graves at sea and the looting of wrecks of ships constituting such graves, and calls upon States to cooperate, as appropriate, to prevent the looting and desecration of wrecks of ships constituting graves in order to ensure that proper respect is given to all human remains located in maritime waters, consistent with international law, including, as appropriate, the 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage, among parties thereto;

361. *Encourages* bodies established by the Convention to strengthen coordination and cooperation, as appropriate, in fulfilling their respective mandates;

362. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of heads of intergovernmental organizations, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations engaged in activities relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, as well as funding institutions, and underlines the importance of their constructive and timely input for the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea and of their participation in relevant meetings and processes;

363. *Welcomes* the work done by the secretariats of relevant United Nations specialized agencies, programmes, funds and bodies and the secretariats of related organizations and conventions to enhance inter-agency coordination and cooperation on ocean issues, including, where appropriate, through UN-Oceans, the inter-agency coordination mechanism on ocean and coastal issues within the United Nations system;

364. *Recognizes* the work undertaken by UN-Oceans, in particular the inventory of mandates, under the revised terms of reference for the work of UN-Oceans, and with the United Nations Legal Counsel/Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea as the focal point of UN-Oceans, and, as an interim measure, in this regard invites States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make financial earmarked contributions to the trust fund established by the Secretary-

General for the Office of Legal Affairs to support the promotion of international law, and authorizes the Secretary-General to disburse funds from such contributions to that trust fund for the purposes of the maintenance of an online searchable database for an inventory of the mandates of UN-Oceans members and priorities approved by the respective governing bodies of the participating organizations of UN-Oceans, with a view to identifying possible areas of collaboration and synergy, as well as for travel associated with the performance of the functions of the focal point;

365. *Decides* to defer the review of the terms of reference for the work of UN-Oceans until its seventy-fifth session;

## **XVI**

### **Activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea**

366. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the annual reports on oceans and the law of the sea, prepared by the Division, as well as for the other activities of the Division, which reflect the high standard of assistance provided to Member States by the Division;

367. *Notes with satisfaction* the tenth observance by the United Nations of World Oceans Day in 2018,<sup>270</sup> recognizes with appreciation the efforts deployed by the Division in this regard, and invites the Division to continue to promote and facilitate international cooperation on the law of the sea and ocean affairs in the context of the future observance of World Oceans Day, as well as through its participation in other events;

368. *Recalls* the responsibilities and functions entrusted to the Secretary-General in the Convention and in the related resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolutions 49/28 and 52/26, notes the increased number of requests to the Division for additional outputs and servicing of meetings and in relation to the support to be provided by the Division as secretariat of the Regular Process during the second cycle of the Regular Process, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the allocation of appropriate resources to the Division for the performance of its activities under the approved budget for the Organization;

369. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the publication activities of the Division, in particular through the publication of *The Law of the Sea: A Select Bibliography* and the *Law of the Sea Bulletin*;

## **XVII**

### **Seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly**

370. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare reports for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, namely, a report on developments and issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, including the implementation of the present resolution, in accordance with resolutions 49/28, 52/26 and 54/33, and a report on the topic that is the focus of the twentieth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process;

371. *Emphasizes* the critical role of the annual reports of the Secretary-General, which integrate information on developments relating to the implementation of the Convention and the work of the Organization, its specialized agencies and other institutions in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea at the global and regional levels, and as a result constitute the basis for the annual consideration and review of developments relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea by the General Assembly as the global institution having the competence to undertake such a review;

372. *Notes* that the reports referred to in paragraph 370 above will also be submitted to States Parties pursuant to article 319 of the Convention regarding issues of a general nature that have arisen with respect to the Convention;

373. *Also notes* the desire to further improve the efficiency of and effective participation of delegations in the informal consultations concerning the annual General Assembly resolution on oceans and the law of the sea, decides that the period of the informal consultations on that resolution should not exceed a maximum of two weeks in total and that the consultations should be scheduled in such a way that the Division has sufficient time to produce the report on developments and issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea referred to in paragraph 370 above, requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide support to the consultations through the Division, and encourages States to submit proposals for the resolution to the Coordinator of the informal consultations no later than one week before the first day of the first round of the informal consultations;

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<sup>270</sup> By its resolution 63/111, the General Assembly designated 8 June as World Oceans Day.

374. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Oceans and the law of the sea”.

## **Annex**

**Amendments to the terms of reference, guidelines and rules of the Trust Fund for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf for developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and compliance with article 76 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea<sup>271</sup>**

### **Terms of reference, guidelines and rules**

#### **1. Reasons for establishing the Trust Fund**

In paragraph 2, amend the last sentence to read:

“In accordance with article 4 of annex II to the Convention, the particulars of such limits should be submitted to the Commission within ten years of the entry into force of the Convention for that State. The earliest deadline for submission for States was 13 May 2009.”

In paragraph 7, amend the last sentence to read:

“The final preparation of a submission, including additional information with respect to submissions and revised or new submissions, to the Commission also requires high-level expertise in geosciences and hydrography.”

#### **2. Objects and purpose of the Trust Fund**

In paragraph 9, amend the last sentence to read:

“The object of the Fund is to enable developing States, in particular, the least developed coastal countries and small island developing States, to make an initial assessment of their particular case, make appropriate plans for further investigations and data acquisition, to prepare the final submission documents, as well as subsequent amended and/or revised submission documents, to maintain the capacity of developing States while waiting for their submission to be assigned to a subcommission for examination, and to meet with the Commission when it is considering their submission upon the Commission’s invitation.”

In paragraph 13, amend the first sentence to read:

“The preparation of the final submission documents, as well as subsequent amended and/or revised submission documents, will have to meet the requirements of article 76 and annex II to the Convention (and for some States, annex II to the Final Act) and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission.”

#### **4. Application for financial assistance**

Amend paragraph 15 to read:

“An application for financial assistance from the Fund may be submitted by developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, who are parties to the Convention.”

Amend subparagraph (d) in paragraph 16 to read:

“Preparation of final, amended and/or revised submission documents;”

Move paragraph subparagraph (e) in paragraph 16, below subparagraph (f).

Amend subparagraph (d) in paragraph 17 to read:

“Preparation of final, amended and/or revised submission documents”

Move paragraph subparagraph (e) in paragraph 17, below subparagraph (f).

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<sup>271</sup> As set out in annex II to General Assembly resolution [55/7](#), the annex to resolution [58/240](#) and the annex to resolution [70/235](#).

5. Consideration of applications

Amend paragraph 20 to read:

“The Division may engage an independent panel to assist in the examination of applications on the basis of section 4 above and to recommend the amount of financial assistance to be given. The panel shall be composed of the Chairs of the United Nations Regional Groups; each Chair may designate one representative from their Regional Group to attend on their behalf. However, no person from a State with an application before the panel and no sitting Commission member should serve on this independent panel.”

Amend paragraph 21 to read:

“In considering the application, the Division shall be guided by the following, in order of priority:

- (a) the need to assist States requesting assistance with their initial submission to the Commission;
- (b) the need to assist least developed countries and small island developing States;
- (c) the need to assist developing States to prepare additional data requested by the subcommission analysing their submission;
- (d) the need to assist developing States to participate in meetings with the Commission or one of its subcommissions upon an invitation by the Commission;
- (e) the need to assist developing States to maintain their capacity while waiting for their submission to be assigned to a subcommission for examination; and
- (f) the need to assist developing States to prepare revised and/or amended submissions.

The order in which applications are received, the availability of funds and the overall level of assistance provided so far to a State requesting assistance shall also be taken into consideration. Assistance with revised or amended submissions will be limited to one approved application per developing State; in the case of joint submissions each State involved in the joint submission may seek such assistance.”

Delete paragraph 22. Renumber subsequent paragraphs.

**RESOLUTION 73/125**

Adopted at the 50th plenary meeting, on 11 December 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.41](#) and [A/73/L.41/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Albania, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Belize, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Iceland, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kiribati, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Slovakia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

**73/125. Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its annual resolutions on sustainable fisheries, including resolution [72/72](#) of 5 December 2017, and other relevant resolutions,

*Recalling* the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the Convention),<sup>272</sup> and bearing in mind the relationship between the Convention and the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the

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<sup>272</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (the Agreement),<sup>273</sup>

*Welcoming* ratifications of and accessions to the Agreement and the fact that a growing number of States, entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (b), of the Agreement, and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, have taken measures, as appropriate, towards the implementation of the provisions of the Agreement, in order to improve their management regimes,

*Welcoming also* the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Committee on Fisheries, and recognizing in particular the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (the Code) and other related instruments, including the international plans of action, which set out principles and global standards of behaviour for responsible practices for conservation of fisheries resources and the management and development of fisheries, as well as the 2005 Rome Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing,

*Welcoming further* the outcomes, including the decisions and recommendations, of the thirty-third session of the Committee on Fisheries, held in Rome from 9 to 12 July 2018,<sup>274</sup>

*Recognizing* the importance of data collection through accurate and reliable reporting and monitoring of catches, including by-catch and discards, as a fundamental element of effective fisheries management that provides a basis for scientific stock assessment, and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management,

*Noting with concern* that effective management of marine capture fisheries has been made difficult in some areas by unreliable and incomplete information and data caused by, inter alia, unreported and misreported fish catch and fishing effort and that this lack of accurate data contributes to overfishing in some areas, and in this regard recalling that members of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements must fully comply with their associated data collection and reporting obligations, including to ensure that required data submissions are complete, reliable and submitted in a timely manner,

*Recognizing* the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment (first World Ocean Assessment), which provides information on the state of the marine environment, including socioeconomic aspects, in relation to, inter alia, fisheries,

*Recognizing also* the significant contribution of sustainable fisheries to food security and nutrition, income, wealth and poverty alleviation for present and future generations,

*Welcoming in this regard* 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”, as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012,

*Welcoming* the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, held from 25 to 27 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, and in this regard reaffirming the commitment to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, as reflected in Goal 14 of the outcome document,

*Noting* the voluntary national reviews on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals, particularly on Goal 14,

*Recalling* its resolution 71/312 of 6 July 2017, in which it endorsed the declaration entitled “Our ocean, our future: call for action” adopted by the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, held at United Nations Headquarters from 5 to 9 June 2017, coinciding with World Oceans Day on 8 June, and in this regard affirming the important role of the declaration in demonstrating the collective will to take action to conserve and sustainably use our oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development,

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<sup>273</sup> Ibid., vol. 2167, No. 37924.

<sup>274</sup> See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2019/23.



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*Recognizing* the important contributions of the partnership dialogues and voluntary commitments made in the context of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 to the effective and timely implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14,

*Welcoming in this regard* the continuous attention given by the international community to the role of fish and fish products in nutrition and food security, including by the Committee on World Food Security of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, especially noting the importance of the availability of highly nutritious food for low-income populations,

*Recalling* the decision in its resolution [71/124](#) of 7 December 2016 to designate 2 May as World Tuna Day,

*Recalling also* the decision in its resolution [72/72](#) to proclaim 5 June the International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, to draw attention to the threats posed by illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities to the sustainable use of fisheries resources as well as to ongoing efforts to fight these activities,

*Recalling further* the decision in its resolution [72/72](#) to proclaim the year beginning on 1 January 2022 the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture,

*Recalling* that, in “The future we want”, States were encouraged to give due consideration to implementing the Committee on World Food Security Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,

*Noting* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has developed the Global Work Programme to Advance Knowledge on Rights-based Approaches for Fisheries, as a means to support the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication and to facilitate the formalization of appropriate access and resource rights in small-scale and artisanal fisheries in both developing and developed countries, in order to improve governance of fisheries,

*Recalling* the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication,

*Recognizing* the urgent need for action at all levels, relying on the best available scientific information to ensure the long-term sustainable use and management of fisheries resources through the wide application of the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches,

*Expressing concern* over the current and projected adverse effects of climate change on food security and the sustainability of fisheries, and noting in that regard the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Environment Programme,

*Recalling* the entry into force of the Paris Agreement,<sup>275</sup> and noting that it aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, including by increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience,

*Reaffirming its commitment* to ensuring that conservation and management measures adopted by regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements are based on the best available scientific information,

*Taking note* of the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations entitled *The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2018*, in which it was stated that 33.1 per cent of assessed marine fish stocks were estimated to be fished at a biologically unsustainable level and therefore overfished as of 2015, and taking note of the report of the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-third session, in which serious concern about the state of the world’s fish stocks was expressed, noting the continued increase in the proportion of overfished stocks, and in which it was also recognized that the situation was very different in different areas of the world,<sup>274</sup>

*Expressing its support* for accelerating work to complete the ongoing negotiations in the World Trade Organization to strengthen disciplines on subsidies in the fisheries sector, including through the prohibition of certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing,

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<sup>275</sup> See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.

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*Noting* the ministerial decision on fisheries subsidies, adopted at the Eleventh Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Buenos Aires from 10 to 13 December 2017,

*Concerned* that only a limited number of States have taken measures to implement, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

*Recalling* the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

*Particularly concerned* that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing continues to constitute a serious threat to fish stocks and marine habitats and ecosystems, to the detriment of sustainable fisheries as well as the food security and the economies of many States, particularly developing States,

*Concerned* that some operators increasingly take advantage of the globalization of fishery markets to trade fishery products stemming from illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and make economic profits from those operations, which constitutes an incentive for them to pursue their activities,

*Recognizing* that effective deterrence and combating of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing has significant financial and other resource implications for all States, in particular developing States,

*Recognizing also* that fishing by vessels without nationality on the high seas undermines relevant objectives of the Convention and the Agreement to conserve and sustainably manage marine resources, and noting with concern that fishing vessels without nationality operate on the high seas without governance and oversight,

*Recognizing further* the role of the Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels in the concerted fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing,

*Recognizing* the duty provided in the Convention, the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas (the Compliance Agreement),<sup>276</sup> the Agreement and the Code for flag States to effectively exercise jurisdiction and control over fishing vessels flying their flag, and vessels flying their flag which provide support to fishing vessels, to ensure that the activities of such fishing and support vessels do not undermine the effectiveness of conservation and management measures taken in accordance with international law and adopted at the national, subregional, regional or global levels,

*Noting* the advisory opinion of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea on the request for an advisory opinion submitted by the Subregional Fisheries Commission, issued on 2 April 2015,

*Recognizing* the importance of adequately regulating, monitoring and controlling trans-shipment at sea to contribute to combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities,

*Noting* the obligation of all States, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the relevant provisions of the Convention, to cooperate in the conservation and management of living marine resources, and recognizing the importance of coordination and cooperation at the global, regional, subregional and national levels in the areas, inter alia, of marine scientific research, data collection, information-sharing, capacity-building and training for the conservation, management and sustainable development of living marine resources,

*Acknowledging* the importance of ocean data buoy systems moored in areas beyond national jurisdiction to sustainable development, promoting safety at sea and limiting human vulnerability to natural disasters, due to their use in weather and marine forecasts, fisheries management, tsunami forecasts and climate prediction, and expressing concern that most damage to ocean data buoys, such as moored buoys and tsunameters, frequently results from actions taken by some fishing operations which render the buoys inoperable,

*Welcoming in this regard* the adoption of measures by States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to protect ocean data buoy systems from the impacts of fishing activities,

*Encouraging* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to cooperate to ensure that interactions between fishing operations and ocean data buoys on the high seas are minimized,

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<sup>276</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2221, No. 39486.

*Recognizing* the need for States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to continue to develop and implement, consistent with international law, effective port State measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and overfishing, the critical need for cooperation with developing States to build their capacity, and the importance of cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization in this regard,

*Recalling* the entry into force of the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations<sup>277</sup> in 2016,

*Recognizing* the efforts of States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to implement its resolution 46/215 of 20 December 1991, in which the General Assembly called for a global moratorium on all large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, including collaborative fisheries enforcement activities,

*Concerned* that marine pollution from all sources constitutes a serious threat to human health and safety, endangers fish stocks, marine biodiversity and marine and coastal habitats and has significant costs to local and national economies,

*Recognizing* that marine debris is a global transboundary pollution problem and that, owing to the many different types and sources of marine debris, different approaches to its prevention and removal are necessary, including identification of such sources and environmentally sound techniques for its removal,

*Recognizing also* that the majority of marine debris, including plastics and microplastics, entering the seas and oceans is considered to originate from land-based sources,

*Recognizing further* that abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear, including ghost fishing gear, is an increasingly pervasive and destructive form of marine debris causing adverse impacts on fish stocks, marine life and the marine environment and that urgent preventative action is needed, such as marking of fishing gear as proposed by the Committee on Fisheries, as well as removal action,

*Noting* that the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea focused its discussions at its nineteenth meeting, held from 18 to 22 June 2018, on anthropogenic underwater noise,<sup>278</sup>

*Acknowledging* that anthropogenic underwater noise could have impacts on different marine species, which could also have consequent socioeconomic impacts, including on fishing, and welcoming in this regard the discussions on the issue at the nineteenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process,

*Noting* the continuing gaps in knowledge and lack of data with respect to anthropogenic underwater noise, and welcoming in this respect the recent encouragement, at its thirty-third session, of the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to consider conducting a review of the impact of anthropogenic underwater noise on marine resources and its socioeconomic consequences,

*Reaffirming* the importance of sustainable aquaculture to food security, recognizing that, as indicated in *The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2018*, aquaculture is already making a significant contribution to the global seafood supply, and that a further increase in that contribution is anticipated,

*Noting* that the contribution of sustainable aquaculture to global fish supplies continues to respond to opportunities in developing countries to enhance local food security and nutrition and poverty alleviation and, together with the efforts of other aquaculture-producing countries, will make a significant contribution to meeting future demands in fish consumption, bearing in mind article 9 of the Code,

*Noting in this regard* the concern about the potential effects of genetically engineered aquatic fish species on the health and sustainability of wild fish stocks,

*Recognizing* the efforts made by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in regulating deep-sea fisheries, while still concerned that some deep-sea fishing activities in certain areas are being carried out without full implementation of relevant paragraphs of previous resolutions, representing a threat to vulnerable marine ecosystems,

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<sup>277</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2009/REP and Corr.1–3, appendix E.

<sup>278</sup> See A/73/124.

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*Calling attention* to the particular vulnerabilities of small island developing States, other developing coastal States and subsistence fishing communities whose livelihoods, economic development and food security are heavily dependent on sustainable fisheries and will suffer disproportionately if sustainable fisheries are negatively affected,

*Calling attention also* to the circumstances affecting fisheries in many developing States, in particular African States and small island developing States, and recognizing the urgent need for capacity-building, including the transfer of marine technology and in particular fisheries- and aquaculture-related technology, to enhance the ability of such States to exercise their rights in order to realize the benefits from fisheries resources and fulfil their obligations under international instruments,

*Noting* the need to recognize and address the special role of women and the vulnerability of indigenous and local communities and minorities in small-scale fisheries,

*Recognizing* the need to adopt, implement and enforce appropriate measures to minimize waste, by-catch and discards, including high-grading, loss of fishing gear and other factors that adversely affect the sustainability of fish stocks and ecosystems and, consequently, can also have harmful effects on the economies and food security of small island developing States, other developing coastal States and subsistence fishing communities,

*Recognizing also* the need to adopt and implement appropriate measures, consistent with the best available scientific information, to minimize by-catch of non-targeted species and juveniles through the effective management of fishing methods, including the use and design of fish aggregating devices, in order to mitigate adverse effects on fish stocks and ecosystems,

*Recognizing further* the need to further integrate ecosystem approaches into fisheries conservation and management and, more generally, the importance of applying ecosystem approaches to the management of human activities in the ocean, and noting in this regard the Reykjavik Declaration on Responsible Fisheries in the Marine Ecosystem,<sup>279</sup> the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations related to guidelines for the implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management and the importance of this approach to relevant provisions of the Agreement and the Code, as well as decision VII/11<sup>280</sup> and other relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

*Noting with appreciation* the comprehensive review of the impacts of climate change on fisheries and aquaculture and adaptation options undertaken by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

*Recognizing* the economic and cultural importance of sharks in many countries, the biological importance of sharks in the marine ecosystem as key predatory species, the vulnerability of certain shark species to overexploitation, the fact that some are threatened with extinction, the need for measures to promote the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of shark populations and fisheries, and the relevance of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1999, in providing guidance on the development of such measures,

*Welcoming in this regard* the review by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, and its ongoing work in this regard,

*Noting with concern* that basic data on shark stocks and harvests continue to be lacking and that not all regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have adopted conservation and management measures for directed shark fisheries and for the regulation of by-catch of sharks from other fisheries,

*Welcoming* science-based measures taken by States to conserve and sustainably manage sharks, and noting in this respect management measures taken by coastal States, including limits on catch or fishing effort, technical measures, including by-catch reduction measures, sanctuaries, closed seasons and areas and monitoring, control and surveillance,

*Recalling* the decisions on sharks and rays adopted at the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, held in Johannesburg,

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<sup>279</sup> E/CN.17/2002/PC.2/3, annex.

<sup>280</sup> See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, annex.

South Africa, from 24 September to 5 October 2016, inter alia, the inclusion of additional species of sharks and rays in appendix II to that Convention,<sup>281</sup> and recalling also the ongoing work of the secretariat of that Convention, the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on capacity-building in this regard,

*Noting* that the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, at its twelfth session, held in Manila from 23 to 28 October 2017, added 5 new species of sharks and rays to those listed in the appendices to that Convention,<sup>282</sup> bringing the number to 34 species,

*Noting with concern* the continuing practice of the removal of fins from sharks, with the remainder of the carcass being discarded at sea,

*Recognizing* the importance of marine species occupying low trophic levels in the ecosystem and for food security, and the need to ensure their long-term sustainability,

*Expressing concern* over continued incidental mortality, in fishing operations, of seabirds, particularly albatrosses and petrels, as well as other marine species, including sharks, fin-fish species, marine mammals and marine turtles, while recognizing considerable efforts by States and through various regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to reduce incidental mortality as a result of by-catch,

*Noting with concern* the significant threat that invasive alien species, such as those carried and transferred by ballast water and by biofouling on ships, pose to marine ecosystems and resources,

## **I**

### **Achieving sustainable fisheries**

1. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas and the obligations of States to cooperate to this end, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the relevant provisions of the Convention,<sup>272</sup> in particular the provisions on cooperation set out in Part V and Part VII, section 2, of the Convention, and where applicable, the Agreement;<sup>273</sup>

2. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention, which sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out, taking into account the relationship between the Convention and the Agreement;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in "The future we want",<sup>283</sup> States addressed the sustainable development of fisheries, recognized the significant contribution of fisheries to the three dimensions of sustainable development and stressed the crucial role of healthy marine ecosystems, sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture for food security and nutrition and in providing for the livelihoods of millions of people, and encourages States to implement the commitments made in "The future we want";

4. *Calls upon* States to implement the Sustainable Development Goals outlined in the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/1, including Goal 14 to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and recalls that the Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible;

5. *Reiterates*, in this regard, the call for action to be taken on an urgent basis to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development made in the declaration entitled "Our ocean, our future: call for action",<sup>284</sup>

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<sup>281</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

<sup>282</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1651, No. 28395.

<sup>283</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>284</sup> Resolution 71/312, annex.

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6. *Encourages* States to give due priority to the implementation of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)<sup>285</sup> in relation to achieving sustainable fisheries, especially restoring depleted stocks to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield on an urgent basis and, where possible, not later than 2015, and recalls that, in “The future we want”, States committed themselves to intensify their efforts to meet that target and to urgently take the measures necessary to maintain or restore all stocks at least to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield, with the aim of achieving those goals in the shortest time feasible, as determined by their biological characteristics, and in order to achieve this, to urgently develop and implement science-based management plans, including by reducing or suspending fishing catch and fishing effort commensurate with the status of the stock, consistent with international law, the applicable international instruments and relevant General Assembly resolutions and guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

7. *Also encourages* States to promote the consumption of fish sourced from sustainably managed fisheries;

8. *Further encourages* States to consider sustainable aquaculture, consistent with the Code, as a means to promote diversification of the food supply and of income, while ensuring that aquaculture is conducted responsibly and adverse impacts on the environment are minimized;

9. *Emphasizes* the need for the full implementation of the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, entitled “SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway”,<sup>286</sup>

10. *Expresses its serious concern* regarding the impacts of global climate change and ocean acidification on coral reefs and other ecosystems relevant to fisheries, and urges States, either directly or through appropriate subregional, regional or global organizations or arrangements, to intensify efforts to assess and address, as appropriate, the impacts of global climate change and ocean acidification on the sustainability of fish stocks and the habitats that support them, in particular the most affected ones;

11. *Notes* the concern expressed by the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, at its thirty-third session, with regard to the vulnerability of fisheries and aquaculture communities to climate change and extreme events and, in particular, the impacts on small-scale fisheries and small island developing States,<sup>274</sup> and urges States to consider appropriate action in this regard;

12. *Emphasizes* the obligations of flag States to discharge their responsibilities, in accordance with the Convention and the Agreement, to ensure compliance by vessels flying their flag with the conservation and management measures adopted and in force with respect to fisheries resources on the high seas;

13. *Calls upon* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to assess the risks and potential adverse impacts of climate change with respect to fish stocks, consider them when establishing conservation and management measures and identifying options to reduce risks and adverse impacts with respect to fisheries management and the health and resilience of marine ecosystems and enhance efforts to cooperate to collect, exchange and publish scientific and technical data and best practices related to the development and implementation of adaptation strategies, and to assist developing States in this regard, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change;

14. *Encourages* States and relevant organizations and arrangements to assess and consider the impacts of climate change on fisheries and aquaculture sectors in their policies and planning, as appropriate, to identify effective adaptation strategies to reduce the vulnerability of these sectors to climate change;

15. *Calls upon* all States, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to apply widely, in accordance with international law and the Code, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches to the conservation, management and exploitation of fish stocks, and also calls upon States parties to the Agreement to implement fully the provisions of article 6 of the Agreement as a matter of priority;

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<sup>285</sup> *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 2, annex.

<sup>286</sup> Resolution 69/15, annex.



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16. *Urges* States to increase their reliance on scientific advice in developing, adopting and implementing conservation and management measures, and to increase their efforts, including through international cooperation, to promote science for conservation and management measures that apply, in accordance with international law, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management, enhancing understanding of ecosystem approaches, in order to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources, and in this regard encourages the implementation of the Strategy for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Capture Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as a framework for the improvement and understanding of fishery status and trends;

17. *Calls upon* all States, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to apply stock-specific target and limit precautionary reference points, which for target reference points are intended to meet management objectives, as described in annex II to the Agreement and in the Code, to ensure that populations of harvested stocks and, where necessary, associated or dependent species, are maintained at or restored to sustainable levels, and to use these reference points for triggering conservation and management action;

18. *Encourages* States, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to establish and implement rebuilding and recovery strategies and plans where a stock is identified as being overfished, which should include time frames and probabilities of recovery aimed at bringing the stock back at least to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield, and guided by scientific assessment and subjected to periodic evaluation of progress;

19. *Also encourages* States to apply the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches in adopting and implementing conservation and management measures addressing, inter alia, by-catch, pollution and overfishing, and protecting habitats of specific concern, taking into account existing guidelines developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

20. *Further encourages* States to enhance or develop observer programmes, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, in order to improve data collection on, inter alia, target and by-catch species, which could also assist monitoring, control and surveillance tools, and to take into account standards, forms of cooperation and other existing structures for such programmes as described in article 25 of the Agreement and article 5 of the Code;

21. *Calls upon*, in this regard, States, individually in line with their national legislation or through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to take steps as appropriate to ensure the safety of observers;

22. *Encourages* States to implement, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, accurate, complete, reliable and effective data collection and reporting of required data on catches, including by-catch and discards, reviewing and validating the data, and providing catch information in support of scientific stock assessment and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management;

23. *Calls upon* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to collect and, where appropriate, report to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations required catch and effort data, and fishery-related information, in a complete, accurate and timely way, including for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks within and beyond areas under national jurisdiction, discrete high seas fish stocks, and by-catch and discards; and, where they do not exist, to establish processes to strengthen data collection and reporting by members of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, including through regular reviews of member compliance with such obligations, and, when such obligations are not met, require the member concerned to rectify the problem, including through the preparation of plans of action with timelines;

24. *Invites* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to cooperate with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in the implementation and further development of the Fisheries Resources Monitoring System initiative;

25. *Reaffirms* paragraph 10 of its resolution [61/105](#) of 8 December 2006, and calls upon States, including through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to urgently adopt and implement measures to fully implement the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks for directed and non-directed shark fisheries, based on the best available scientific information, through, inter alia, limits on catch or fishing effort, by requiring that vessels flying their flag collect and regularly report data on shark catches, including species-specific data, discards and landings, undertaking, including through international cooperation, comprehensive stock assessments of sharks, reducing shark by-catch and by-catch mortality and, where scientific information is

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uncertain or inadequate, not increasing fishing effort in directed shark fisheries and urgently establishing science-based management measures to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of shark stocks and to prevent further declines of vulnerable or threatened shark stocks, and encourages the full utilization of dead sharks caught in the context of sustainably managed fisheries;

26. *Calls upon* States to take immediate and concerted action to improve the implementation of and compliance with existing regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements and national measures that regulate shark fisheries and incidental catch of sharks, in particular those measures which prohibit or restrict fisheries conducted solely for the purpose of harvesting shark fins and, where necessary, to consider taking other measures, as appropriate, such as requiring that all sharks be landed with each fin naturally attached;

27. *Calls upon* regional fisheries management organizations with the competence to regulate highly migratory species to strengthen or establish precautionary, science-based conservation and management measures, as appropriate, for sharks taken in fisheries within their convention areas consistent with the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks;

28. *Encourages* range States and regional economic integration organizations that have not yet done so to become signatories to and implement the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks under the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals,<sup>282</sup> and invites non-range States, intergovernmental organizations and international and national non-governmental organizations or other relevant bodies and entities to consider becoming cooperating partners;

29. *Encourages* States, as appropriate, to cooperate in establishing non-detriment findings for shared stocks of marine species listed in appendices I and II to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,<sup>281</sup> consistent with the concepts and non-binding guiding principles contained in resolution Conf. 16.7 on non-detriment findings, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora;

30. *Urges* States to eliminate barriers to trade in fish and fisheries products which are not consistent with their rights and obligations under the World Trade Organization agreements, taking into account the importance of the trade in fish and fisheries products, particularly for developing countries;

31. *Recalls* that, in “The future we want”, States committed themselves to observing the need to ensure access to fisheries and the importance of access to markets by subsistence, small-scale and artisanal fisherfolk and women fish workers, as well as indigenous peoples and their communities, particularly in developing countries, especially small island developing States;

32. *Notes* that the Committee on Fisheries encouraged the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to provide capacity-development and technical support to small-scale fisheries, including by addressing socioeconomics, gender dimensions, and post-harvest and data collection challenges in the sector;

33. *Urges* States and relevant international and national organizations to provide for the participation of small-scale fishery stakeholders in related policy development and fisheries management strategies in order to achieve long-term sustainability for such fisheries, consistent with the duty to ensure the proper conservation and management of fisheries resources, and encourages States to consider promoting, as appropriate, participatory management schemes for small-scale fisheries in accordance with national laws, regulations and practices, as well as the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

34. *Welcomes* action taken by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and a number of regional organizations to support the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication through regional plans of action, dedicated working groups and other initiatives;

35. *Encourages* States, either directly or through competent and appropriate subregional, regional or global organizations and arrangements, to analyse, as appropriate, the impact of fishing for marine species corresponding to low trophic levels;

36. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the initiation of further studies by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of the impact of industrial fishing activities on species corresponding to low trophic levels;

37. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to assess and consider the potential risk and effects of genetically engineered fish species on the health and sustainability of wild fish stocks and on the biodiversity of the aquatic environment and to provide guidance consistent with the Code, on managing risk and minimizing harmful impacts in this regard;

38. *Also invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in consultation with other relevant international organizations, including the International Maritime Organization, to promote awareness and cooperation to develop and strengthen capacity to prevent, minimize and mitigate the adverse impacts of invasive alien species on biodiversity, including fish stocks;

39. *Calls upon* States to consider potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts of anthropogenic underwater noise from different activities in the marine environment and to address and mitigate such impacts, taking into account the best available scientific information, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches, as appropriate;

## **II**

### **Implementation of the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks**

40. *Welcomes* the most recent ratification and accession to the Agreement, and calls upon all States, and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (b), of the Agreement, that have not done so to ratify or accede to the Agreement and in the interim to consider applying it provisionally;

41. *Calls upon* States parties to the Agreement to effectively implement, as a matter of priority, the provisions of the Agreement through their national legislation and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate;

42. *Emphasizes* the importance of those provisions of the Agreement relating to bilateral, subregional and regional cooperation in enforcement, and urges continued efforts in this regard;

43. *Urges* States parties to the Agreement, in accordance with article 21, paragraph 4, thereof, to inform, either directly or through the relevant subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement, all States whose vessels fish on the high seas in the same subregion or region of the form of identification issued by those States parties to officials duly authorized to carry out boarding and inspection functions in accordance with articles 21 and 22 of the Agreement;

44. *Also urges* States parties to the Agreement, in accordance with article 21, paragraph 4, thereof, to designate an appropriate authority to receive notifications pursuant to article 21 and to give due publicity to such designation through the relevant subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement;

45. *Invites* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements which have not yet done so to adopt procedures for high seas boarding and inspection that are consistent with articles 21 and 22 of the Agreement, including, inter alia, those to ensure the safety of the crew and the inspectors;

46. *Calls upon* States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence over discrete high seas fish stocks, to adopt the measures necessary to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of such stocks in accordance with the Convention and consistent with the Code and the general principles set forth in the Agreement;

47. *Invites* States to assist developing States in enhancing their participation in regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, including by facilitating access to fisheries for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, in accordance with article 25, paragraph 1 (b), of the Agreement, taking into account the need to ensure that such access benefits the developing States concerned and their nationals;

48. *Urges* States parties to the Agreement, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to take into account the special requirements of developing States, including small island developing States as highlighted in the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, in giving effect to the duty to cooperate in the establishment of conservation and management measures for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, including the need to ensure, where appropriate, in accordance with article 24,

paragraph 2 (c), of the Agreement, that such measures do not transfer a disproportionate burden of conservation action onto developing States, and notes in this regard ongoing efforts to better develop a common understanding of this concept;

49. *Calls upon* States and international financial institutions and organizations of the United Nations system to provide assistance according to Part VII of the Agreement, including, if appropriate, the development of special financial mechanisms or instruments to assist developing States, in particular the least developed among them and small island developing States, to enable them to develop their national capacity to exploit fishery resources, including developing their domestically flagged fishing fleet, value-added processing and the expansion of their economic base in the fishing industry, consistent with the duty to ensure the proper conservation and management of fisheries resources;

50. *Urges* States, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, national institutions and non-governmental organizations, as well as natural and juridical persons, to make voluntary financial contributions to the Assistance Fund established under Part VII of the Agreement;

51. *Encourages* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat (the Division) to continue their efforts to publicize the availability of assistance through the Assistance Fund;

52. *Encourages* accelerated progress by States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, regarding the recommendations of the Review Conference on the Agreement, held in New York from 22 to 26 May 2006,<sup>287</sup> and the identification of emerging priorities;

53. *Encourages* States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to consider implementing, as appropriate, the recommendations of the resumed Review Conference held in New York from 24 to 28 May 2010<sup>288</sup> and from 23 to 27 May 2016,<sup>289</sup>

54. *Notes* that the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-third session, emphasized, in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the need to ensure comparability and consistency of reporting indicators at global, regional and national levels, whilst minimizing the burden on its members;

55. *Recognizes* that the Review Conference is the competent intergovernmental forum for assessing the effectiveness of the Agreement by reviewing its implementation;

56. *Recalls* that the resumed Review Conference agreed to keep the Agreement under review through the resumption of the Review Conference at a date not earlier than 2020, to be agreed at a future round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement;

57. *Acknowledges*, in particular, the commitments made at the resumed Review Conference held in 2016 to the continued implementation of the Agreement through the application of the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management, the urgent improvement of the status of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, strengthened interaction of the science-policy interface and the strong emphasis on collaboration, at all levels, for improved global fisheries outcomes;

58. *Recalls* paragraph 6 of resolution 56/13 of 28 November 2001 and the recommendation of the resumed Review Conference in 2016 that the informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement be dedicated, on an annual basis, to the consideration of specific issues arising from the implementation of the Agreement, with a view to improving understanding, sharing experiences and identifying best practices for the consideration of States parties, as well as the General Assembly and the Review Conference;

59. *Takes note* of the report of the thirteenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement, focusing on the topic “Science-policy interface”,<sup>290</sup>

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<sup>287</sup> See A/CONF.210/2006/15, annex.

<sup>288</sup> See A/CONF.210/2010/7, annex.

<sup>289</sup> See A/CONF.210/2016/5, annex.

<sup>290</sup> Available from the web page of the Agreement maintained by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.

60. *Reiterates its request*, in paragraph 55 of resolution 72/72, that the Secretary-General convene the fourteenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement for two days in May 2019 to focus on the topic “Performance reviews of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements”;

61. *Encourages* greater participation, including by competent international organizations, at the forthcoming fourteenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement;

62. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite States parties to the Agreement and, as observers, States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (b), of the Agreement not parties to the Agreement, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other relevant organizations, bodies, funds and programmes within the United Nations system, the secretariats of relevant organizations and conventions and other relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies, in particular subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and related regional intergovernmental marine science organizations, and relevant non-governmental organizations, in accordance with past practice, to attend the fourteenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement, while relevant scientific institutions may request an invitation to participate in the consultations as observers;

63. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to invite States parties to the Agreement, as well as States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (b), of the Agreement not parties to the Agreement and others invited to participate in the consultations as observers pursuant to paragraph 62 of the present resolution, to submit their views on the topic “Performance reviews of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements”, together with a translation into English, to the Division, and requests the Division to post such views, unedited and in the languages in which they are received, on its website, in accordance with past practice;

64. *Invites* the chairperson of the informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement to circulate widely, through the Secretariat, an informal summary of the discussions at the fourteenth round;

65. *Reaffirms its request* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations initiate arrangements with States for the collection and dissemination of data on fishing in the high seas by vessels flying their flag at the subregional and regional levels where no such arrangements exist;

66. *Also reaffirms its request* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations revise its global fisheries statistics database to provide information on straddling fish stocks, highly migratory fish stocks and discrete high seas fish stocks on the basis of where the catch is taken;

### **III**

#### **Related fisheries instruments**

67. *Emphasizes* the importance of the effective implementation of the provisions of the Compliance Agreement,<sup>276</sup> and urges continued efforts in this regard;

68. *Calls upon* all States and other entities referred to in article X, paragraph 1, of the Compliance Agreement that have not yet become parties to that Agreement to do so as a matter of priority and, in the interim, to consider applying it provisionally;

69. *Urges* States and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to implement and promote the application of the Code within their areas of competence;

70. *Urges* States to develop and implement, as a matter of priority, national and, as appropriate, regional plans of action to put into effect the international plans of action of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

71. *Encourages* States, in this regard, to maintain their commitment in reporting on their implementation of the Code, reiterates the importance of responding to the web-based questionnaire of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for monitoring the implementation of the Code and the international plans of action and strategies, and notes that the information collected could also be relevant to the implementation of related targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

72. *Notes* the publication by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of Technical Guidelines for Fishing Operations: best practices to improve safety at sea in the fisheries sector;

73. *Encourages* States to consider signing, ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Cape Town Agreement of 2012 on the Implementation of the Provisions of the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977;

#### **IV**

#### **Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing**

74. *Emphasizes once again its serious concern* that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing remains one of the greatest threats to fish stocks and marine ecosystems and continues to have serious and major implications for the conservation and management of ocean resources, as well as the food security and the economies of many States, particularly developing States, and renews its call upon States to comply fully with all existing obligations and to combat such fishing and urgently to take all steps necessary to implement the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing;

75. *Recalls* that, in “The future we want”, States acknowledged that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing deprive many countries of a crucial natural resource and remain a persistent threat to their sustainable development and recommitted to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing as advanced in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, and to prevent and combat those practices, including by developing and implementing national and regional action plans in accordance with the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, implementing, in accordance with international law, effective and coordinated measures by coastal States, flag States, port States, chartering nations and the States of nationality of the beneficial owners and others who support or engage in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by identifying vessels engaged in such fishing and by depriving offenders of the benefits accruing from it, as well as by cooperating with developing countries to systematically identify needs and build capacity, including support for monitoring, control, surveillance, compliance and enforcement systems;

76. *Notes with satisfaction* the development of an increasing number of national plans of action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and calls upon States that have not yet done so to consider developing such plans;

77. *Urges* flag States to strengthen effective jurisdiction and control over vessels flying their flag, and to exercise due diligence, including by developing or amending national rules and regulations, where needed, in order to ensure that such vessels do not engage in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, while reaffirming the importance, under international law, including as reflected in the Convention, of the responsibilities of flag States regarding fishing vessels flying their flag, including with respect to safety at sea and labour conditions on fishing vessels;

78. *Urges* States to effectively exercise jurisdiction and control over their nationals, including beneficial owners, and vessels flying their flag, in order to prevent and deter them from engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities or supporting vessels engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, including those vessels listed by regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements as engaged in those activities, and to facilitate mutual assistance to ensure that such actions can be investigated and proper sanctions imposed;

79. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to establish penalties for non-compliance by vessels involved in fishing or fishing-related activities and their nationals, as appropriate, in accordance with applicable national law and consistent with international law, that are adequate in severity for effectively securing compliance, deterring further violations and depriving offenders of the benefits from their illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities;

80. *Urges* States to take effective measures, at the national, subregional, regional and global levels, to deter the activities, including illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, of any vessel which undermines conservation and management measures that have been adopted by subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in accordance with international law;

81. *Calls upon* States not to permit vessels flying their flag to engage in fishing on the high seas or in areas under the national jurisdiction of other States, unless duly authorized by the authorities of the States concerned and in accordance with the conditions set out in the authorization, and to take specific measures, including deterring the



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reflagging of vessels by their nationals, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, the Agreement and the Compliance Agreement, to control fishing operations by vessels flying their flag;

82. *Urges* States, individually and collectively through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to develop appropriate processes to assess the performance of States with respect to implementing the obligations regarding fishing vessels flying their flag set out in relevant international instruments;

83. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen, where necessary, the international legal framework for intergovernmental cooperation, in particular at the subregional and regional levels, in the management of fish stocks and in combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, in a manner consistent with international law, and for States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (b), of the Agreement to collaborate in efforts to address these types of fishing activities;

84. *Urges* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to further coordinate measures for combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, such as through the development of a common list of vessels identified as engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing or the mutual recognition of the illegal, unreported and unregulated vessel lists established by each organization or arrangement;

85. *Reaffirms its call upon* States to take all necessary measures consistent with international law, without prejudice to a State's sovereignty over ports in its territory and to reasons of force majeure or distress, including the prohibition of vessels from accessing their ports followed by a report to the flag State concerned, when there is clear evidence that they are or have been engaged in or have supported illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, or when they refuse to give information either on the origin of the catch or on the authorization under which the catch has been made;

86. *Reaffirms* paragraph 53 of its resolution [64/72](#) of 4 December 2009 with regard to eliminating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by vessels flying "flags of convenience" and requiring that a "genuine link" be established between States and fishing vessels flying their flags, and urges States operating open registry to effectively control all fishing vessels flying their flag, as required by international law, or otherwise stop open registry for fishing vessels;

87. *Notes* the challenges posed by vessels determined under international law to be without nationality that are fishing on the high seas and that such vessels are engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities as defined under the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and encourages States to take necessary measures where appropriate, consistent with international law, including enacting domestic legislation, in order to prevent and deter vessels without nationality from engaging in or supporting illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

88. *Encourages* States, either directly or through competent and appropriate subregional, regional or global organizations and arrangements, to consider adopting rules, consistent with international law, to ensure that chartering arrangements and practices related to fishing vessels enable compliance with and enforcement of relevant conservation and management measures, so as not to undermine efforts to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

89. *Recognizes* the need for enhanced port State measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and urges States to cooperate, in particular at the regional level and through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt all necessary port measures, consistent with international law taking into account article 23 of the Agreement, and to further promote the development and application of standards at the regional level;

90. *Welcomes* the recent ratifications of and accessions to the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing,<sup>277</sup> and encourages States and regional economic integration organizations that have not yet done so to consider ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to that Agreement;

91. *Takes note* of the convening of the working groups under the Agreement on Port State Measures to develop operational resources and build capacity to support implementation of that Agreement, and also takes note of the work to develop the information exchange portal at the first meeting of the open-ended technical working group on information exchange under that Agreement, held from 16 to 18 April 2018;

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92. *Notes* the capacity development programme of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations aimed at facilitating and supporting the implementation of the Agreement on Port State Measures and related instruments, which contributes to the development of national capacity of both parties and non-parties, including the strengthening of the institutional, operational and enforcement capacity of developing States with a view to maximizing the benefits of its implementation;

93. *Also notes*, in this regard, the regional workshops convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on implementing the Agreement on Port State Measures;

94. *Recognizes* the ongoing collaboration between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization, as well as the International Labour Organization, through the Joint FAO/IMO Ad Hoc Working Group on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and Related Matters with regard to, inter alia, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, maritime safety and decent labour conditions in the fisheries sector, as reflected in the report of the third session of the Ad Hoc Working Group, held from 16 to 18 November 2015;

95. *Encourages* States, with respect to vessels flying their flag, and port States, to make every effort to share data on landings and catch quotas, and in this regard encourages regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to consider developing open databases containing such data for the purpose of enhancing the effectiveness of fisheries management;

96. *Takes note* that the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-third session, expressed support for the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in continuing to develop technical guidelines for the estimation of the magnitude and geographic extent of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, noting the value of these guidelines for the production of consistent and reliable estimates, determining national, regional, global trends, and measuring the impact of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

97. *Calls upon* States to take all measures necessary to ensure that vessels flying their flag do not engage in trans-shipment of fish caught by fishing vessels engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, through adequate regulation, monitoring and control of trans-shipment of fish at sea, including through additional national measures applicable to vessels flying their flag to prevent such trans-shipment;

98. *Urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt and implement internationally agreed market-related measures in accordance with international law, including principles, rights and obligations established in World Trade Organization agreements, as called for in the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing;

99. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its fortieth session of the Voluntary Guidelines for Catch Documentation Schemes,<sup>291</sup> encourages work to increase awareness of the Guidelines, and encourages States and relevant stakeholders to implement the Guidelines when developing catch documentation schemes and to use them as a reference in related activities, with special attention to the prevention, deterrence and elimination of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

100. *Encourages* information-sharing regarding emerging market- and trade-related measures by States and other relevant actors with appropriate international forums, given the potential implications of these measures for all States, consistent with the established plan of work of the Committee on Fisheries, and taking into account the Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fish Trade of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

101. *Acknowledges* the development of participatory surveillance activities at sea involving fishing communities in West Africa as a cost-effective way of detecting illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

102. *Notes* the concern expressed by the Committee on Fisheries at the proliferation of private standards and ecolabelling schemes potentially leading to the creation of trade barriers and restrictions, and also notes the work by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to develop an evaluation framework to assess the conformity of public and private ecolabelling schemes through the Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Capture Fisheries;

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<sup>291</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C/2017/REP, appendix C.

103. *Also notes* the concerns about possible connections between transnational organized crime and illegal fishing in certain regions of the world, and encourages States, including through the appropriate international forums and organizations, to study the causes and methods of and contributing factors to illegal fishing to increase knowledge and understanding of those possible connections, and to make the findings publicly available, and in this regard takes note of the study issued by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on transnational organized crime in the fishing industry, bearing in mind the distinct legal regimes and remedies under international law applicable to illegal fishing and transnational organized crime;

## **V**

### **Monitoring, control and surveillance and compliance and enforcement**

104. *Calls upon* States, in accordance with international law, to strengthen implementation of or, where they do not exist, adopt comprehensive monitoring, control and surveillance measures and compliance and enforcement schemes individually and within those regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in which they participate, in order to provide an appropriate framework for promoting compliance with agreed conservation and management measures, and further urges enhanced coordination among all relevant States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in these efforts;

105. *Welcomes* the fact that the Committee on Fisheries has urged its members to start implementing the Voluntary Guidelines for Flag State Performance<sup>292</sup> as soon as possible, and urges all flag States to implement those Guidelines as soon as possible, including, as a first step, by carrying out a voluntary assessment;

106. *Encourages* further work by competent international organizations, including subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to develop guidelines on flag State control of fishing vessels;

107. *Urges* States, individually and through relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to establish mandatory vessel monitoring, control and surveillance systems, in particular to require that vessel monitoring systems be carried by all vessels fishing on the high seas as soon as practicable, recalling that in paragraph 62 of resolution 63/112 of 5 December 2008 it urged that large-scale fishing vessels be required to carry vessel monitoring systems no later than December 2008, and to share information on fisheries enforcement matters;

108. *Calls upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to strengthen or establish, consistent with national and international law, positive or negative lists of vessels fishing within the areas covered by relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in order to promote compliance with conservation and management measures and to identify products from illegal, unreported and unregulated catches, and encourages improved coordination among all States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in sharing and using this information, taking into account the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement;

109. *Encourages* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in cooperation with States, regional economic integration organizations, the International Maritime Organization and, as appropriate, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to expedite efforts to develop and manage a comprehensive global record of fishing vessels, refrigerated transport vessels and supply vessels, including with a unique vessel identifier system, using, as a first step, the International Maritime Organization Ship Identification Number Scheme for fishing vessels of 100 gross tonnage and above, adopted by the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization in its resolution A.1078(28) of 4 December 2013;

110. *Welcomes* the continued development of the Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, including its efforts to keep it cost-effective, including the launch on 9 July 2018 of the public version of the Global Record, and encourages States, including through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to provide the necessary data and regular updates to the Global Record;

111. *Also welcomes* the decision by the International Maritime Organization, in resolution A.1117(30) of 6 December 2017, to extend, beyond the first phase of the Global Record, the International Maritime Organization Ship Identification Number Scheme to fishing vessels of steel and non-steel hull construction and to all motorized

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<sup>292</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document COFI/2014/4.2/Rev.1, appendix II.

inboard fishing vessels of less than 100 gross tonnage down to a size limit of 12 metres in length overall authorized to operate outside waters under the national jurisdiction of the flag State, and welcomes the fact that several regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have made provisions for the International Maritime Organization number to be compulsory in their convention areas for all eligible vessels, and encourages those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements which have not yet done so to do the same;

112. *Requests* States and relevant international bodies to develop, in accordance with international law, more effective measures to trace fish and fishery products to enable importing States to identify fish or fishery products caught in a manner that undermines international conservation and management measures agreed in accordance with international law, taking into account the special requirements of developing States and the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement, and at the same time to recognize the importance of market access, in accordance with provisions 11.2.4, 11.2.5 and 11.2.6 of the Code, for fish and fishery products caught in a manner that is in conformity with such international measures;

113. *Requests* States to take the necessary measures, consistent with international law, to help to prevent fish and fishery products caught in a manner that undermines applicable conservation and management measures adopted in accordance with international law from entering international trade;

114. *Encourages* States to establish and undertake cooperative surveillance and enforcement activities in accordance with international law to strengthen and enhance efforts to ensure compliance with conservation and management measures, and prevent and deter illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

115. *Urges* States, directly and through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to develop and adopt effective monitoring, control and surveillance measures for trans-shipment, as appropriate, in particular at-sea trans-shipment, in order to, inter alia, monitor compliance, to collect and verify fisheries data, and to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, in accordance with international law and, in parallel, to encourage and support the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in studying the current practices of trans-shipment and produce a set of guidelines for this purpose;

116. *Takes note*, in this regard, that the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-third session, welcomed the Global Study on Trans-shipment by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and called for in-depth studies to support the development of guidelines on best practices for regulating, monitoring and controlling trans-shipment;

117. *Expresses its appreciation* for financial contributions from States to improve the capacity of the existing voluntary International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network for Fisheries-related Activities, and encourages States to join and actively participate in the Network and to consider supporting, when appropriate, its transformation in accordance with international law into an international unit with dedicated resources to further assist Network members, taking into account the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement;

## **VI**

### **Fishing overcapacity**

118. *Calls upon* States to commit themselves to urgently reducing the capacity of the world's fishing fleets to levels commensurate with the sustainability of fish stocks, through the establishment of target levels and plans or other appropriate mechanisms for ongoing capacity assessment, while avoiding the transfer of fishing capacity to other fisheries or areas in a manner that undermines the sustainable management of fish stocks, including those areas where fish stocks are overexploited or in a depleted condition, and recognizing in this context the legitimate rights of developing States to develop their fisheries for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks consistent with article 25 of the Agreement, article 5 of the Code and paragraph 10 of the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

119. *Calls upon*, in this regard, States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to develop and implement a range of measures to adjust fishing intensity, including fishing capacity where relevant, to levels commensurate with the sustainability of fish stocks, and including capacity assessment and capacity management plans providing incentives for voluntary reduction, which take into account all aspects that contribute to fishing capacity, considering, inter alia, engine power, fishing gear technology, fish detection technology and storage space, and also to improve transparency on fishing capacity, including by identifying, sharing and publicizing relevant information in this regard, subject to confidentiality requirements;

120. *Reiterates its call upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to ensure that the urgent actions required in the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity are undertaken expeditiously and that its implementation is facilitated without delay;

121. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to report on the state of progress in the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity, as provided for in paragraph 48 of the Plan of Action;

122. *Calls upon* States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence to regulate highly migratory species, urgently to address global fishing capacity for tunas, inter alia, in a way that recognizes the legitimate rights of developing States, in particular small island developing States, to participate in and benefit from such fisheries, taking into account the recommendations of the 2010 Joint Tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organizations International Workshop on RFMO Management of Tuna Fisheries, held in Brisbane, Australia, and the recommendations of the 2011 third joint meeting of tuna regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

123. *Encourages* those States which are cooperating to establish subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, taking into account the best scientific information available as well as ecosystem approaches and the precautionary approach, to exercise voluntary restraint of fishing effort levels in those areas that will come under the regulation of the future organizations and arrangements until adequate regional conservation and management measures are adopted and implemented, taking into account the need to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of the relevant fish stocks and to prevent significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems;

124. *Recalls* that, in “The future we want”, States reaffirmed their commitment in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and overcapacity, taking into account the importance of that sector to developing countries, reiterated their commitment to conclude multilateral disciplines on fisheries subsidies that would give effect to the mandates of the World Trade Organization Doha Development Agenda<sup>293</sup> and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration to strengthen disciplines on subsidies in the fisheries sector, including through the prohibition of certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation, taking into account the importance of the sector to development priorities, poverty reduction and livelihood and food security concerns, and encouraged one another to further improve the transparency and reporting of existing fisheries subsidies programmes through the World Trade Organization and, given the state of fisheries resources, and without prejudicing the Doha and Hong Kong ministerial mandates on fisheries subsidies or the need to conclude those negotiations, to eliminate subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing and to refrain from introducing new such subsidies or from extending or enhancing existing ones;

125. *Urges* States to eliminate fisheries subsidies that contribute to overfishing and overcapacity and to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, including through accelerating work to complete negotiations on fisheries subsidies at the World Trade Organization, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization negotiations on fisheries subsidies;

## VII

### Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing

126. *Expresses concern* that, despite the adoption of General Assembly resolution [46/215](#), the practice of large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing still exists and remains a threat to living marine resources;

127. *Urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt effective measures, or strengthen existing measures, to implement and enforce the provisions of resolution [46/215](#) and subsequent resolutions on large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing in order to eliminate the use of large-scale pelagic drift nets in all seas and oceans, which means that efforts to implement resolution [46/215](#) should not result in the transfer to other parts of the world of drift nets that contravene the resolution;

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<sup>293</sup> [A/C.2/56/7](#), annex.

128. *Also urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt effective measures, or strengthen existing measures, to implement and enforce the present global moratorium on the use of large-scale pelagic drift nets on the high seas, and calls upon States to ensure that vessels flying their flag that are duly authorized to use large-scale drift nets in waters under their national jurisdiction do not use such gear for fishing while on the high seas;

### **VIII**

#### **Fisheries by-catch and discards**

129. *Urges* States, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant international organizations that have not done so to take action, including with consideration of the interests of developing coastal States and, as appropriate, subsistence fishing communities, to minimize by-catch, as well as to reduce or eliminate catch by lost or abandoned gear, fish discards and post-harvest losses, including of juvenile fish, consistent with international law and relevant international instruments, including the Code, and in particular to consider measures including, as appropriate, technical measures related to fish size, mesh size or gear, discards, closed seasons and areas and zones reserved for selected fisheries, particularly artisanal fisheries, the establishment of mechanisms for communicating information on areas of high concentration of juvenile fish, taking into account the importance of ensuring the confidentiality of such information, and support for studies and research that will minimize by-catch of juvenile fish, and to ensure that these measures are implemented so as to optimize their effectiveness;

130. *Encourages*, in this regard, States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to ensure proper implementation and enforcement of the measures they have taken with regard to by-catch and discards;

131. *Welcomes* the commitment of States in “The future we want” to enhance action to manage by-catch, discards and other adverse ecosystem impacts from fisheries, including by eliminating destructive fishing practices, consistent with international law, the applicable international instruments and relevant General Assembly resolutions and guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

132. *Calls upon* States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to further study, develop and adopt effective management measures, taking into account the best available scientific information on fishing methods, including fish aggregating devices, to minimize by-catch;

133. *Also calls upon* States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to collect the necessary data in order to evaluate and closely monitor the use of large-scale fish aggregating devices and other devices, as appropriate, and their effects on tuna resources and tuna behaviour and associated and dependent species, to improve management procedures to monitor the number, type and use of such devices and to mitigate possible negative effects on the ecosystem, including on juveniles and the incidental by-catch of non-target species, particularly sharks and turtles, and notes in this regard the measures adopted by different regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

134. *Notes*, in this regard, that some regional fisheries management organizations, including the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, have established their own working groups to assess the use and impact of large-scale fish aggregating devices;

135. *Encourages* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to promote, as appropriate, the use of environmentally friendly fish aggregating devices while ensuring compliance with measures that they have taken relating to such devices;

136. *Urgently calls upon* States, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and, where appropriate, other relevant international organizations to develop and implement effective management measures to reduce the incidence of catch and discards of non-target species, including the utilization of selective fishing gear, where appropriate, and to take appropriate measures to minimize waste, and welcomes in this regard the support of the Committee on Fisheries for the development of a technical guideline of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations addressing the causes of and remedies to food losses and waste;

137. *Calls upon* States and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to adopt or improve measures to assess the impact of their fisheries on species caught as by-catch and to improve the comprehensiveness and accuracy of information and reporting on incidental catch of species caught as by-catch,



including through adequate observer coverage and the use of modern technologies, such as electronic monitoring, and to provide assistance to developing States to meet data-collection and reporting obligations;

138. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to strengthen or establish data-collection programmes to obtain reliable species-specific estimates of shark, marine turtle, fin-fish, marine mammal and seabird by-catch, and to promote further research on selective fishing gear and practices and on the use of appropriate by-catch mitigation measures;

139. *Encourages* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to coordinate in the development and implementation of clear and standardized by-catch data-collection and reporting protocols for non-target species, in particular endangered, threatened and protected species, taking into account best-practice advice from appropriate international organizations and arrangements, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels;<sup>294</sup>

140. *Encourages* States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (b), of the Agreement to give due consideration to participation, as appropriate, in subregional and regional instruments and organizations with mandates to conserve non-target species taken incidentally in fishing operations;

141. *Encourages* States to strengthen, if necessary, the capacity of those subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate to ensure the adequate conservation of non-target species taken incidentally in fishing operations, taking into consideration best practices for non-target species management, and to expedite their ongoing efforts in this regard;

142. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements urgently to implement, as appropriate, the measures recommended in the 2004 Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations and the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in order to prevent the decline of sea turtles and seabird populations by minimizing by-catch and increasing post-release survival in their fisheries, including through research and development of gear and bait alternatives, promoting the use of available by-catch mitigation technology, and establishing and strengthening data-collection programmes to obtain standardized information to develop reliable estimates of the by-catch of these species;

143. *Urges* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to implement the International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;<sup>295</sup>

144. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to continue to take urgent action to reduce the by-catch of seabirds, including albatrosses and petrels, in fisheries by adopting and implementing conservation measures consistent with the 2009 best practices technical guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to support implementation of the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries and taking into account the work of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels and of organizations, such as the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources;

145. *Takes note* of the report of the Expert Workshop on Means and Methods for Reducing Marine Mammal Mortality in Fishing and Aquaculture Operations, organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome from 20 to 23 March 2018;

## **IX**

### **Subregional and regional cooperation**

146. *Urges* coastal States and States fishing on the high seas, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement and other relevant instruments, to pursue cooperation in relation to straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, either directly or through appropriate subregional or regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to ensure the effective conservation and management of such stocks;

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<sup>294</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2258, No. 40228.

<sup>295</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document FIRO/R957 (En), appendix E.

147. *Urges* States fishing for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks on the high seas, and relevant coastal States, where a subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement has the competence to establish conservation and management measures for such stocks, to give effect to their duty to cooperate by becoming members of such an organization or participants in such an arrangement, or by agreeing to apply the conservation and management measures established by such an organization or arrangement, or to otherwise ensure that no vessel flying their flag is authorized to access the fisheries resources to which regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements or conservation and management measures established by such organizations or arrangements apply;

148. *Invites*, in this regard, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to ensure that all States having a real interest in the fisheries concerned may become members of such organizations or participants in such arrangements, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement and the Code, provided they have shown their interest in and capacity to comply with the measures adopted by the regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements concerned, including their willingness to effectively exercise flag State control, while recognizing the need to enhance the capacity of developing States in this regard;

149. *Encourages* relevant coastal States and States fishing on the high seas for a straddling fish stock or a highly migratory fish stock, where there is no subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement to establish conservation and management measures for such stocks, to cooperate to establish such an organization or enter into another appropriate arrangement to ensure the conservation and management of such stocks, and to participate in the work of the organization or arrangement;

150. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the progress in the preparation of a draft convention on future multilateral cooperation in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden;

151. *Also welcomes*, in this regard, the conclusion of the Agreement to Prevent Unregulated High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean, and the signing ceremony held in Ilulissat, Greenland, on 3 October 2018;

152. *Urges* signatory States and other States whose vessels fish within the area of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Fishery Resources in the South-East Atlantic Ocean<sup>296</sup> for fishery resources covered by that Convention to become parties to that Convention as a matter of priority and, in the interim, to ensure that vessels flying their flags fully comply with the measures adopted;

153. *Encourages* further ratifications of, accessions to, acceptances and approvals of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement;<sup>297</sup>

154. *Also encourages* further ratifications of, accessions to, acceptances and approvals of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean;<sup>298</sup>

155. *Further encourages* further ratifications of, accessions to and acceptances and approvals of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fisheries Resources in the North Pacific Ocean, and notes the ongoing efforts by the North Pacific Fisheries Commission to develop and implement conservation and management measures and to strengthen cooperation to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing within the area of that Convention;

156. *Welcomes* the endorsement of the Agreement for the establishment of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean, as amended, by the Commission at its thirty-eighth session, held in Rome from 19 to 24 May 2014, and urges those Contracting Parties to the Commission that need to accept the amended Agreement to do so with a view to its early entry into force;

157. *Notes* the ongoing efforts of the members of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission to strengthen the functioning of the Commission so that it can more effectively discharge its mandate, and invites the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to provide members of the Commission with the necessary assistance to this end;

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<sup>296</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2221, No. 39489.

<sup>297</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2835, No. 49647.

<sup>298</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2899, No. 50553.

158. *Encourages* signatory States and States having a real interest to become parties to the Convention for the Strengthening of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission Established by the 1949 Convention between the United States of America and the Republic of Costa Rica;

159. *Welcomes* the entry into force on 18 May 2017 of the 2007 Amendment to the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries;<sup>299</sup>

160. *Urges* further efforts by regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as a matter of priority, in accordance with international law, to strengthen and modernize their mandates and the measures adopted by such organizations or arrangements, and to implement modern approaches to fisheries management, as reflected in the Agreement and other relevant international instruments, relying on the best scientific information available and application of the precautionary approach and incorporating an ecosystem approach to fisheries management and biodiversity considerations, including the conservation and management of ecologically related and dependent species and protection of their habitats, where these aspects are lacking, to ensure that they effectively contribute to long-term conservation and management and sustainable use of living marine resources, and welcomes those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements that have taken steps in this direction;

161. *Calls upon* regional fisheries management organizations with the competence to conserve and manage highly migratory fish stocks that have not yet adopted effective conservation and management measures in line with the best scientific information available to conserve and manage stocks falling under their mandate to do so urgently;

162. *Urges* States to strengthen and enhance cooperation among existing and developing regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate, including increased communication and further coordination of measures, such as through the holding of joint consultations, and to strengthen integration, coordination and cooperation by such regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with other relevant fisheries organizations, regional seas arrangements and other relevant international organizations;

163. *Urges* the five regional fisheries management organizations with competence to manage highly migratory species to continue to take measures to implement the Course of Actions adopted at the second joint meeting of tuna regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and to consider the recommendations of the third joint meeting of tuna regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

164. *Invites* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence to manage straddling fish stocks to share experiences and good practices, for example by considering organizing joint meetings, where appropriate;

165. *Invites* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence to manage deep-sea fisheries to share experiences and good practices, for example by considering organizing joint meetings, where appropriate;

166. *Urges* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to improve transparency and to ensure that their decision-making processes are fair and transparent and facilitate the adoption of conservation and management measures in a timely and effective manner, including considering provisions for effective voting and objection procedures where appropriate, to rely on the best scientific information available, incorporate the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches, and address participatory rights, including through, inter alia, the development of transparent criteria for allocating fishing opportunities which reflects, where appropriate, the relevant provisions of the Agreement, taking due account, inter alia, of the status of the relevant stocks and the respective interests in the fishery;

167. *Welcomes* the fact that a number of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have completed performance reviews, and encourages the implementation, as appropriate, of the recommendations of their respective reviews as a matter of priority;

168. *Urges* States, through their participation in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements that have not done so, to undertake, on an urgent basis, performance reviews of those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, initiated either by the organization or arrangement itself or with external partners, including in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, using transparent criteria

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<sup>299</sup> Ibid., vol. 1135, No. 17799.

based on the provisions of the Agreement and other relevant instruments, and taking into account the best practices of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements and, as appropriate, any set of criteria developed by States or other regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, and encourages that such performance reviews include some element of independent evaluation and propose means for improving the functioning of the regional fisheries management organization or arrangement, as appropriate;

169. *Calls upon* States, through their participation in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to undertake performance reviews of those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements on a regular basis, and to make the results publicly available, to implement the recommendations of such reviews and to strengthen the comprehensiveness of those reviews over time, as necessary;

170. *Recalls* that, in “The future we want”, States recognized the need for transparency and accountability in fisheries management by regional fisheries management organizations and the efforts already made by those regional fisheries management organizations that had undertaken independent performance reviews, called upon all regional fisheries management organizations to regularly undertake such reviews and make the results publicly available, encouraged implementation of the recommendations of such reviews and recommended that the comprehensiveness of those reviews be strengthened over time, as necessary;

171. *Urges* States to cooperate, taking into account those performance reviews, to develop best-practice guidelines for regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and to apply, to the extent possible, those guidelines to organizations and arrangements in which they participate;

172. *Encourages* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to recognize the importance and role of small-scale, artisanal and subsistence fisheries and to support their long-term environmental, economic and social sustainability;

173. *Encourages* the development of regional guidelines for States to use in establishing sanctions for non-compliance by vessels flying their flag and by their nationals, to be applied in accordance with national law, that are adequate in severity for effectively securing compliance, deterring further violations and depriving offenders of the benefits deriving from their illegal activities, as well as in evaluating their systems of sanctions to ensure that they are effective in securing compliance and deterring violations;

174. *Recognizes* the importance of ensuring transparency of reporting of fishing activities within regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in order to facilitate efforts to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, as well as the importance of respecting the reporting obligations within those organizations and arrangements, notes in this regard the measures adopted by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas<sup>300</sup> and the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission,<sup>301</sup> and encourages other regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to consider establishing similar measures;

## **X**

### **Responsible fisheries in the marine ecosystem**

175. *Encourages* States, individually and through relevant international bodies, to improve the understanding of the causes and impacts of forced labour and human trafficking in the fishing and aquaculture industries, including processing and related industries, and to further consider actions to combat these practices, including raising awareness of the issue;

176. *Acknowledges* the entry into force of the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188) on 16 November 2017, and of the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) on 9 November 2016, as relevant instruments that ensure decent working conditions in fisheries and other maritime sectors, and notes in this regard the tripartite meeting on issues relating to migrant fishers, held in Geneva from 18 to 22 September 2017 under the auspices of the International Labour Organization;

177. *Calls upon* flag States to effectively implement their duty under the Convention with respect to labour conditions, taking into account applicable international instruments and national laws, and in this regard encourages

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<sup>300</sup> International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, recommendation 11–16.

<sup>301</sup> Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, resolutions 12/07 and 13/07.

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States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) and the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188), and to implement the Guidelines for port State control officers carrying out inspections under the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188) and the Guidelines on flag State inspection of working and living conditions on board fishing vessels;

178. *Urges* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to enhance their efforts to apply an ecosystem approach to fisheries, taking into account paragraph 30 (d) of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

179. *Encourages* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant international organizations, to work to ensure that fisheries and other ecosystem data collection is performed in a coordinated and integrated manner, facilitating incorporation into global observation initiatives, where appropriate;

180. *Calls upon* States and regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, working in cooperation with other relevant organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the World Meteorological Organization, to adopt, as appropriate, measures to protect ocean data buoy systems moored in areas beyond national jurisdiction from actions that impair their operation;

181. *Encourages* States to increase scientific research on marine ecosystems in accordance with international law;

182. *Recognizes* that the science-policy interface is vital to the effective implementation of the provisions of the Convention and the Agreement by providing the best available scientific information for the conservation and management of living marine resources;

183. *Urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to strengthen the science-policy interface in order to further improve the application of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management and to address uncertainties and changes such as those related to the impacts of climate change in support of the development of adaptive fisheries management strategies;

184. *Calls upon* States, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other specialized agencies, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, where appropriate, and other appropriate intergovernmental bodies to cooperate in achieving sustainable aquaculture, including through information exchange, developing equivalent standards on such issues as aquatic animal health and human health and safety concerns, assessing the potential positive and negative impacts of aquaculture, including socioeconomics, on the marine and coastal environment, including biodiversity, and adopting relevant methods and techniques to minimize and mitigate adverse effects, and in this regard encourages the implementation of the 2007 Strategy and Outline Plan for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Aquaculture of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as a framework for the improvement and understanding of aquaculture status and trends;

185. *Calls upon* States to take action immediately, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, and consistent with the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches, to continue to implement the 2008 International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (the Guidelines) in order to sustainably manage fish stocks and protect vulnerable marine ecosystems, including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals, from fishing practices with significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems, recognizing the immense importance and value of deep-sea ecosystems and the biodiversity they contain as documented in the first World Ocean Assessment;

186. *Recalls*, in this regard, that, in “The future we want”, States committed to enhance actions to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems from significant adverse impacts, including through the effective use of impact assessments, consistent with international law, the applicable international instruments and relevant General Assembly resolutions and guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

187. *Reaffirms* the importance of paragraphs 80 to 90 of resolution [61/105](#), paragraphs 113 to 127 of resolution [64/72](#), paragraphs 121 to 136 of resolution [66/68](#) of 6 December 2011 and paragraphs 156, 171 to 188 and 219 of resolution [71/123](#) of 7 December 2016 addressing the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems

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and the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks and the actions called for in those resolutions, and emphasizes the need for full implementation by all States and relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements of their commitments under those paragraphs on an urgent basis;

188. *Urges* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to ensure that their actions in sustainably managing deep-sea fisheries and implementing paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 156, 171 to 188 and 219 of resolution 71/123 are consistent with the Guidelines;

189. *Recalls* that nothing in the paragraphs of resolutions 61/105, 64/72, 66/68 and 71/123 addressing the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems prejudices the sovereign rights of coastal States over their continental shelf or the exercise of the jurisdiction of coastal States with respect to their continental shelf under international law as reflected in the Convention, in particular article 77 thereof;

190. *Notes*, in this regard, the adoption by coastal States of conservation measures regarding their continental shelf to address the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems, as well as their efforts to ensure compliance with those measures;

191. *Reiterates* the importance of marine scientific research for the sustainable management of deep-sea fishery resources, including target fish stocks and non-target species, and to protect marine ecosystems, including the prevention of significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems;

192. *Welcomes* the important progress made by States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and those States participating in negotiations to establish a regional fisheries management organization or arrangement competent to regulate bottom fisheries to implement paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72 and paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and address the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems, but notes with concern the uneven implementation of those provisions and that, in particular, bottom fishing continues to occur in certain areas beyond national jurisdiction without an impact assessment having been completed in the 12 years since the adoption of resolution 61/105, in which the General Assembly called for such assessments to be undertaken by 31 December 2008;

193. *Calls upon*, in this regard, States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with the competence to regulate deep-sea fisheries, and States participating in negotiations to establish such organizations or arrangements to take, in particular, the following urgent actions regarding bottom fishing in areas beyond national jurisdiction:

(a) To use, as applicable, the full set of criteria in the Guidelines to identify where vulnerable marine ecosystems occur or are likely to occur as well as for assessing significant adverse impacts;

(b) To ensure that impact assessments, including for cumulative impacts of activities covered by the assessment, are conducted consistent with the Guidelines, particularly paragraph 47 thereof, are reviewed periodically and are revised thereafter whenever a substantial change in the fishery has occurred or there is relevant new information, and that, where such impact assessments have not been undertaken, they are carried out as a priority before authorizing bottom fishing activities;

(c) To ensure that conservation and management measures adopted by States and regional fisheries organizations and arrangements are based on and updated on the basis of the best available scientific information, noting in particular the need to improve effective implementation of thresholds and move-on rules;

194. *Recognizes* that different types of marine scientific research, such as, inter alia, seabed mapping, mapping of vulnerable marine ecosystems based on information from the fishing fleet, on-site camera observations from remote vehicles, benthic ecosystem modelling, comparative benthic studies and predictive modelling have resulted in identification of areas where vulnerable marine ecosystems are known or are likely to occur and in the adoption of conservation and management measures to prevent significant adverse impacts on such ecosystems, including the closure of areas to bottom fishing in accordance with paragraph 119 (b) of resolution 64/72;

195. *Encourages*, in this regard, States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with the competence to manage bottom fisheries, and States participating in negotiations to establish such organizations or arrangements, to consider the results available from different types of marine scientific research, including, as



appropriate, those listed in paragraph 194 above, concerning the identification of areas containing vulnerable marine ecosystems, and to adopt conservation and management measures to prevent significant adverse impacts from bottom fishing on such ecosystems, consistent with the Guidelines, or to close such areas to bottom fishing until such conservation and management measures are adopted, as well as to continue to undertake further marine scientific research, for the above-mentioned purposes, in accordance with international law, as reflected in Part XIII of the Convention;

196. *Encourages*, in this regard, States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with the competence to manage deep-sea fisheries, and States participating in negotiations to establish such organizations or arrangements to carry out further marine scientific research to address the remaining knowledge gaps, in particular with regard to fish stock assessments, and to base and update conservation and management measures on the best available scientific information, in accordance with international law, as reflected in Part XIII of the Convention;

197. *Notes with concern* that vulnerable marine ecosystems may also be impacted by human activities other than bottom fishing, and encourages in this regard States and competent international organizations to consider taking action to address such impacts;

198. *Calls upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to take into account the potential impacts of climate change and ocean acidification in taking measures to manage deep-sea fisheries and protect vulnerable marine ecosystems;

199. *Calls upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with the competence to regulate deep-sea fisheries, to adopt conservation and management measures, including monitoring, control and surveillance measures, on the basis of the best available scientific information, including stock assessments, to ensure the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks and non-target species and the rebuilding of depleted stocks, consistent with the Guidelines and, where scientific information is uncertain, unreliable or inadequate, to ensure that conservation and management measures are established consistent with the precautionary approach, in particular with regard to vulnerable, threatened or endangered species;

200. *Recognizes*, in particular, the special circumstances and requirements of developing States and the specific challenges they may face in giving full effect to certain technical aspects of the Guidelines, and that implementation by such States of paragraphs 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraph 119 of resolution 64/72, paragraph 129 of resolution 66/68 and paragraph 180 of resolution 71/123 and the Guidelines should proceed in a manner that gives full consideration to section 6 of the Guidelines on the special requirements of developing countries;

201. *Recognizes* the need to enhance the capacity of developing States, including with regard to stock assessments, impact assessments, scientific and technical knowledge and training, and encourages States to provide technical and financial support to developing countries to address their special requirements and challenges in implementing the Guidelines;

202. *Welcomes* the substantial ongoing work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations related to the management of deep-sea fisheries in the high seas and the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems, including the publication of the technical paper entitled “Vulnerable marine ecosystems: processes and practices in the high seas”, affirms the importance of the work undertaken pursuant to paragraphs 135 and 136 of resolution 66/68, and notes in particular the support provided by that Organization to States in implementing the Guidelines;

203. *Recalls* the decision to conduct in 2020 a further review of the actions taken by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in response to paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 156, 171, 175, 177 to 188 and 219 of resolution 71/123, with a view to ensuring effective implementation of the measures therein and to make further recommendations, where necessary, and decides to precede that review with a two-day workshop;

204. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, with full conference services, without prejudice to future arrangements, a two-day workshop in 2020 in order to discuss implementation of paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 156, 171, 175, 177 to 188 and 219 of resolution 71/123, and to invite States, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, other fisheries bodies, other relevant intergovernmental bodies and relevant non-governmental organizations and relevant stakeholders, in accordance with United Nations practice, to attend the workshop;

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205. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report similar in scope, length and detail to his report to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session,<sup>302</sup> in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and with the assistance of an expert consultant to be hired by the Division to provide information and analysis on relevant technical and scientific issues to be covered in the report, for consideration by the Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, on the actions taken by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in response to paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution [64/72](#), paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution [66/68](#) and paragraphs 156, 171, 175, 177 to 188 and 219 of resolution [71/123](#), and invites States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to consider making such information publicly available;

206. *Encourages* accelerated progress to establish criteria on the objectives, establishment and effective management of marine protected areas for fisheries purposes, and in this regard welcomes the development by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of technical guidelines on marine protected areas and fisheries, also encourages their application, and urges involvement, coordination and cooperation among all relevant international organizations and bodies;

207. *Also encourages* efforts to establish guidance on the objectives, establishment and management of other effective area-based conservation measures for fisheries purposes, and encourages coordination and cooperation for this purpose among all relevant international organizations and bodies;

208. *Urges* all States to implement the 1995 Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities<sup>303</sup> and to accelerate activity to safeguard marine ecosystems, including fish stocks, against sources of land-based pollution, including plastics and excess nutrients, and physical degradation, taking into account the increase in oceanic dead zones;

209. *Calls upon* States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to further study, develop and adopt effective management measures, and disseminate information in that regard, taking into account the best available scientific information, on fishing methods, gear types and uses to minimize mortality and other harms caused by abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear;

210. *Acknowledges* the serious environmental, as well as economic and social, impacts on the marine environment caused by abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear, and encourages States, and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to take action to reduce such gear, noting the recommendations of the 2009 report by the United Nations Environment Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

211. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to paragraphs 77 to 81 of resolution [60/31](#) of 29 November 2005 concerning the issue of lost, abandoned or otherwise discarded fishing gear and related marine debris and the adverse impacts such debris and derelict fishing gear have on, inter alia, fish stocks, habitats and other marine species, and urges accelerated progress by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in implementing those paragraphs of the resolution;

212. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the endorsement by the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-third session, of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gear, and also notes that the Committee welcomed the recommendations of the Technical Consultation on the Marking of Fishing Gear and supported the development of a comprehensive global strategy to tackle issues relating to abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear and to support the implementation of the Guidelines;

213. *Recalls* annex V to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, in which it is stated, inter alia, that the accidental loss or discharge of fishing gear which poses a significant threat to the marine environment or navigation, shall be reported to the State whose flag the ship is entitled to fly, and, where the loss or discharge occurs within waters subject to the jurisdiction of a coastal State, also to that coastal State,<sup>304</sup>

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<sup>302</sup> [A/71/351](#).

<sup>303</sup> [A/51/116](#), annex II.

<sup>304</sup> International Maritime Organization, resolution MEPC.201(62).

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214. *Encourages* further studies, including by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, on the impacts of underwater noise on fish stocks and fishing catch rates, as well as associated socioeconomic effects;

215. *Calls upon* States, including through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to play an active role in global efforts to conserve and sustainably use living marine resources, so as to contribute to marine biological diversity;

216. *Encourages* States, either individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to identify any spawning and nursery areas for fish stocks under their jurisdiction or competence and, where required, to adopt science-based measures to conserve such stocks during these critical life stages;

217. *Expresses concern* about the continuing influx of sargassum seaweed into the waters of the Caribbean and its impact on aquatic resources, fisheries, shorelines, waterways and tourism and the general well-being of coastal communities, and encourages States and relevant regional organizations to coordinate efforts to better understand the causes and impacts of the influx, and to eliminate extraordinary amounts of sargassum washed up along the coastline using environmentally sound techniques, as well as to work on joint solutions to maintain and protect the livelihoods of fishers and fishing communities and find ways of beneficially utilizing the seaweed and environmentally friendly ways of disposing of sargassum washed up on shore;

218. *Recognizes* the wide range of impacts of ocean acidification on marine ecosystems, and calls upon States to tackle the causes of ocean acidification and to further study its impacts;

219. *Emphasizes* the importance of developing adaptive marine resource management strategies and enhancing capacity-building to implement such strategies in order to enhance the resilience of marine ecosystems to minimize the wide range of impacts on marine organisms and threats to food security caused by ocean acidification, in particular the impacts on the ability of calciferous plankton, coral reefs, shellfish and crustaceans to build shells and skeletal structures and the threats this could pose to protein supply;

## **XI**

### **Capacity-building**

220. *Reiterates* the crucial importance of cooperation by States directly or, as appropriate, through the relevant subregional and regional organizations, and by other international organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations through its FishCode programme, including through financial and/or technical assistance, in accordance with the Agreement, the Compliance Agreement, the Code and its associated international plans of action, to increase the capacity of developing States to achieve the goals and implement the actions called for in the present resolution;

221. *Welcomes* the ongoing work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in developing guidance on, and assisting in the implementation of, the strategies and measures required for the creation of an enabling environment for sustainable small-scale fisheries, and encourages studies for creating possible alternative livelihoods for coastal communities;

222. *Recalls* that, in “The future we want”, States recognized the importance of building the capacity of developing countries to be able to benefit from the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and their resources, and in this regard emphasized the need for cooperation in marine scientific research to implement the provisions of the Convention and the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, as well as for the transfer of technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology;

223. *Also recalls* that, in “The future we want”, States urged the identification and mainstreaming by 2014 of strategies that further assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in developing their national capacity to conserve, sustainably manage and realize the benefits of sustainable fisheries, including through improved market access for fish products from developing countries;

224. *Encourages* increased capacity-building and technical assistance by States, international financial institutions and relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies for fishers, in particular small-scale fishers, in developing countries, and in particular small island developing States, consistent with environmental sustainability, in recognition of the fact that food security and livelihoods may depend on fisheries;

225. *Encourages* States to cooperate closely, directly or through the United Nations system, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, with a view to enhancing capacity-building of developing States, including coastal States, in particular small island developing States, in the field of fisheries and aquaculture through education and training;

226. *Recognizes*, in this regard, the work of the United Nations University Fisheries Training Programme in Iceland and its contribution to training for developing States, in particular small island developing States, and emphasizes the need for the continuation and strengthening of this training for developing States;

227. *Encourages* the international community to enhance the opportunities for sustainable development in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States and coastal African States, by encouraging greater participation of those States in authorized fisheries activities being undertaken within areas under their national jurisdiction, in accordance with the Convention, by distant-water fishing nations in order to achieve better economic returns for developing countries from their fisheries resources within areas under their national jurisdiction and an enhanced role in regional fisheries management, as well as by enhancing the ability of developing countries to develop their own fisheries, as well as to participate in high seas fisheries, including access to such fisheries, in conformity with international law, in particular the Convention and the Agreement, and taking into account article 5 of the Code;

228. *Welcomes* the progress made at the first meeting of the parties to the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing towards the future establishment of an assistance fund under article 21 of that Agreement to be administered by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for the purpose of assisting developing States parties, in particular the least developed among them and small island developing States, in the implementation of that Agreement and the acknowledgement by the ad hoc working group established by the parties to that Agreement that access to the assistance fund by developing States parties should be transparent, equitable, simple and well coordinated;

229. *Requests* distant-water fishing nations, when negotiating access agreements and arrangements with developing coastal States, to do so on an equitable and sustainable basis and to take into account their legitimate expectation to fully benefit from the sustainable use of the natural resources of their exclusive economic zones, to ensure that vessels flying their flag comply with the laws and regulations of the developing coastal States adopted in accordance with international law and to give greater attention to fish processing and fish-processing facilities within the national jurisdiction of the developing coastal State to assist the realization of the benefits from the development of fisheries resources and also to the transfer of technology and assistance for monitoring, control and surveillance and compliance and enforcement within areas under the national jurisdiction of the developing coastal State providing fisheries access, taking into account the forms of cooperation set out in article 25 of the Agreement and article 5 of the Code;

230. *Encourages*, in this regard, greater transparency regarding fisheries access agreements, including by making them publicly available, subject to confidentiality requirements;

231. *Encourages* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to provide greater assistance and to promote coherence in such assistance for developing States in designing, establishing and implementing relevant agreements, instruments and tools for the conservation and sustainable management of fish stocks, including in designing and strengthening their domestic regulatory fisheries policies and those of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in their regions, and the enhancement of research and scientific capabilities through existing funds, such as the Assistance Fund under Part VII of the Agreement, bilateral assistance, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements assistance funds, the FishCode programme, the World Bank's global programme on fisheries and the Global Environment Facility;

232. *Calls upon* States to promote, through continuing dialogue and the assistance and cooperation provided in accordance with articles 24 to 26 of the Agreement, further ratifications of or accessions to the Agreement by seeking to address, inter alia, the issue of lack of capacity and resources that might stand in the way of developing States becoming parties;

233. *Notes with appreciation* the compilation, prepared by the Secretariat and available on the website of the Division, of the needs of developing States for capacity-building and assistance in the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and the sources of available assistance for developing States to address such needs;

234. *Encourages* States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant bodies to assist developing States in the implementation of the actions called for in paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 156, 171, 175 and 177 to 188 of resolution 71/123;

235. *Urges* States and regional economic integration organizations, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to mainstream efforts to assist developing States, in particular the least developed and small island developing States, with other relevant international development strategies with a view to enhancing international coordination to enable them to develop their national capacity to exploit fishery resources, consistent with the duty to ensure the conservation and management of those resources, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to fully mobilize and coordinate the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, including at the level of the regional economic commissions, within their respective mandates;

236. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations to develop strategies to further assist developing States, in particular the least developed and small island developing States, in fully realizing the benefits from the catch of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and in strengthening regional efforts to sustainably conserve and manage such stocks and, in this regard, to make available such information;

## **XII**

### **Cooperation within the United Nations system**

237. *Requests* the relevant parts of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and donor agencies to support increased enforcement and compliance capabilities for regional fisheries management organizations and their member States;

238. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue its cooperative arrangements with United Nations agencies on the implementation of the international plans of action;

## **XIII**

### **Activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea**

239. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the activities of the Division, which reflect the high standard of assistance provided to Member States by the Division;

240. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to carry out the responsibilities and functions entrusted to him by the Convention, the Agreement and the related resolutions of the General Assembly and to ensure the allocation of appropriate resources to the Division for the performance of its activities under the approved budget for the Organization;

## **XIV**

### **Seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly**

241. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all States, relevant intergovernmental organizations, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations;

242. *Notes* the desire to further improve the efficiency of and the effective participation of delegations in the informal consultations concerning the annual General Assembly resolution on sustainable fisheries, decides that the informal consultations on this resolution will be held in a single round of consultations in November for a period of six days, requests the Secretary-General to provide support to the consultations through the Division, and invites States to submit proposals for inclusion in the text of the resolution to the Coordinator of the informal consultations no later than five weeks before the start of the consultations;

243. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea", the sub-item entitled "Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments", and to consider the possibility of including this sub-item in future provisional agendas on a biennial basis.

## RESOLUTION 73/126

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 12 December 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.43](#) and [A/73/L.43/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Gambia, Greece, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

### 73/126. Follow-up to the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* the Charter of the United Nations, including the purposes and principles contained therein, and especially the dedication to saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

*Recalling* the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which states that, “since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed”,

*Recognizing* the importance of the Declaration<sup>305</sup> and Programme of Action<sup>306</sup> on a Culture of Peace, adopted by the General Assembly on 13 September 1999, which serve as the universal mandate for the international community, particularly the United Nations system, for the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on a culture of peace, in particular resolution [52/15](#) of 20 November 1997 proclaiming 2000 the International Year for the Culture of Peace, resolution [53/25](#) of 10 November 1998 proclaiming the period 2001–2010 the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World and resolutions [56/5](#) of 5 November 2001, [57/6](#) of 4 November 2002, [58/11](#) of 10 November 2003, [59/143](#) of 15 December 2004, [60/3](#) of 20 October 2005, [61/45](#) of 4 December 2006, [62/89](#) of 17 December 2007, [63/113](#) of 5 December 2008, [64/80](#) of 7 December 2009, [65/11](#) of 23 November 2010, [66/116](#) of 12 December 2011, [67/106](#) of 17 December 2012, [68/125](#) of 18 December 2013, [69/139](#) of 15 December 2014, [70/20](#) of 3 December 2015, [71/252](#) of 23 December 2016 and [72/137](#) of 11 December 2017, adopted under its agenda item entitled “Culture of peace”,

*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>307</sup> which calls for the active promotion of a culture of peace,

*Reaffirming* its resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

*Recalling* its resolutions [70/262](#) of 27 April 2016 on the review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture and [72/276](#) of 26 April 2018 on the follow-up to the report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding and sustaining peace,

*Recalling also* its resolutions [72/241](#) of 20 December 2017 on a world against violence and violent extremism, [72/284](#) of 26 June 2018 on the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review, and [70/254](#) of 12 February 2016 on the Secretary-General’s Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, and noting the establishment of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism under resolution [71/291](#) of 15 June 2017,

*Taking note* of the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly,<sup>308</sup>

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<sup>305</sup> Resolution [53/243](#) A.

<sup>306</sup> Resolution [53/243](#) B.

<sup>307</sup> Resolution [55/2](#).

<sup>308</sup> Resolution [60/1](#).



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*Welcoming* the observance of 10 December as Human Rights Day,<sup>309</sup> 9 December as the International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of This Crime<sup>310</sup> and 2 October as the International Day of Non-Violence,<sup>311</sup> as proclaimed by the United Nations,

*Recognizing* that all efforts made by the United Nations system in general and the international community at large for the prevention of conflicts, the peaceful settlement of disputes, peacekeeping, peacebuilding, mediation, disarmament, sustainable development, the promotion of human dignity and human rights, social inclusion, democracy, the rule of law, good governance and gender equality at the national and international levels contribute greatly to a culture of peace,

*Recognizing also* that efforts towards peacebuilding and sustaining peace need to take into account the promotion of a culture of peace and vice versa,

*Recognizing further* the importance of respect and understanding for religious and cultural diversity throughout the world, of choosing dialogue and negotiations over confrontation and of working together and not against each other,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>312</sup> which provides an overview of the activities that have been carried out by the main United Nations entities working in the areas of a culture of peace as well as interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace since the adoption by the General Assembly of its resolutions [72/136](#) of 11 December 2017 and [72/137](#),

*Recalling* the proclamation by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of 21 February as International Mother Language Day, which aims at protecting, promoting and preserving linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism, in order to foster and enrich a culture of peace, social harmony, cross-cultural dialogue and mutual understanding,

*Recalling also* the proclamation by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of 30 April as International Jazz Day, which aims to develop and increase intercultural exchanges and understanding between cultures for the purpose of mutual comprehension, tolerance and the promotion of a culture of peace,

*Welcoming* the efforts of the international community to enhance understanding through constructive dialogue among civilizations, in particular through various initiatives at the local, national, regional and international levels,

*Expressing its appreciation* for the ongoing efforts of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations in promoting a culture of peace through a number of practical projects in the areas of youth, education, media and migrations, in collaboration with Governments, international organizations, foundations and civil society groups, as well as media and the private sector,

*Taking note* of the meeting of the Group of Friends of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, held at United Nations Headquarters on 28 September 2018 at the level of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and heads of international organizations, on the theme “Building bridges: using soft power to promote a culture of peace”,

*Taking note also* of the eighth United Nations Alliance of Civilizations Forum, held at United Nations Headquarters on 19 and 20 November 2018 under the theme “#Commit2Dialogue: partnerships for prevention and sustaining peace”,

*Welcoming* the successful holding on 5 September 2018 of the General Assembly High-level Forum on the Culture of Peace, convened by the President of the Assembly, at which Member States emphasized a wide-ranging partnership and inclusive collaboration among Member States, international organizations and civil society for the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action, and taking note with appreciation of the Chair’s summary of the meeting on the theme “The culture of peace: a credible pathway to sustaining peace”,

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<sup>309</sup> Resolution [423 \(V\)](#).

<sup>310</sup> Resolution [69/323](#).

<sup>311</sup> Resolution [61/271](#).

<sup>312</sup> [A/73/391](#).

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*Welcoming* also the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly, known as the Nelson Mandela Peace Summit, convened by the President of the Assembly on 24 September 2018, and the adoption of its political declaration,<sup>313</sup>

*Recognizing* the role of women and youth, as well as the contribution of children and older persons in advancing a culture of peace, and in particular the importance of greater involvement of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in activities promoting a culture of peace, including in post-conflict situations,

*Noting* the important and positive contribution of youth in efforts to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, as well as for the promotion of peace and security,

*Welcoming* the adoption by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-sixth session of a programme of action for a culture of peace and non-violence, and noting that the objectives of that programme of action are in line with the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace adopted by the General Assembly,

*Noting* the initiatives of civil society, in collaboration with Governments, to strengthen civilian capacities to enhance the physical safety of vulnerable populations under threat of violence and to promote the peaceful settlement of disputes,

*Encouraging* the continued and increasing efforts and activities on the part of civil society organizations throughout the world in advancing a culture of peace as envisaged in the Declaration and Programme of Action,

1. *Reiterates* that the objective of the effective implementation of the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace<sup>306</sup> is to strengthen further the global movement for a culture of peace following the observance of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010, and calls upon all concerned to renew their attention to this objective;

2. *Welcomes* the inclusion of the promotion of a culture of peace in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>314</sup>

3. *Invites* Member States to continue to place greater emphasis on and expand their activities promoting a culture of peace at the national, regional and international levels and to ensure that peace and non-violence are fostered at all levels;

4. *Invites* the entities of the United Nations system, within their existing mandates, to integrate, as appropriate, the eight action areas of the Programme of Action into their programmes of activities, focusing on promoting a culture of peace and non-violence at the national, regional and international levels;

5. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for strengthening efforts to mobilize all relevant stakeholders within and outside the United Nations system in support of a culture of peace, and invites the Organization to continue to enhance communication and outreach, including through the culture of peace website;

6. *Commends* the practical initiatives and actions by relevant United Nations bodies, including the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the University for Peace, as well as their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, in particular the promotion of peace education and activities related to specific areas identified in the Programme of Action, and encourages them to continue and further strengthen and expand their efforts;

7. *Underlines* that early childhood development contributes to the development of more peaceful societies through advancing equality, tolerance, human development and promoting human rights, and calls for investment in early childhood education, including through effective policies and practices, towards promoting a culture of peace;

8. *Encourages* Member States, United Nations entities, regional and subregional organizations and relevant actors to consider instituting mechanisms to involve youth in the promotion of a culture of peace, tolerance and

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<sup>313</sup> Resolution 73/1.

<sup>314</sup> Resolution 70/1.

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intercultural and interreligious dialogue and develop, as appropriate, an understanding of respect for human dignity, pluralism and diversity, including, as appropriate, through education programmes, that could discourage their participation in acts of terrorism, violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, violence, xenophobia and all forms of discrimination;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations to increase its activities that focus on peace education and global citizenship education in order to enhance an understanding among young people of values such as peace, tolerance, openness, inclusion and mutual respect, which are essential in developing a culture of peace;

10. *Encourages* the United Nations peacebuilding architecture to continue to promote peacebuilding and sustaining peace activities, as outlined in its resolution [72/276](#), and to advance a culture of peace and non-violence in post-conflict peacebuilding efforts at the country level;

11. *Urges* the appropriate authorities to provide age-appropriate education in children's schools that builds a culture of peace and non-violence, including lessons in mutual understanding, respect, tolerance, active and global citizenship and human rights;

12. *Encourages* the involvement of media, especially the mass media, in promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, with particular regard to children and young people;

13. *Commends* civil society, non-governmental organizations and young people for their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including through their campaign to raise awareness on a culture of peace and the peaceful settlement of disputes;

14. *Encourages* civil society and non-governmental organizations to further strengthen their efforts to promote a culture of peace, inter alia, by adopting their own programme of activities to complement the initiatives of Member States, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, in line with the Declaration<sup>305</sup> and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace;

15. *Invites* Member States, all entities of the United Nations system and civil society organizations to accord increasing attention to their observance of the International Day of Peace on 21 September each year as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence, in accordance with its resolution [55/282](#) of 7 September 2001, and of the International Day of Non-Violence on 2 October, in accordance with its resolution [61/271](#) of 15 June 2007;

16. *Reiterates* its request to the President of the General Assembly to consider convening a high-level forum, as appropriate and within existing resources, devoted to the implementation of the Programme of Action on the occasion of the anniversary of its adoption, on or around 13 September, and requests the Secretariat to support its effective organization with required logistics support within their respective mandates and existing resources;

17. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to give special attention to the appropriate and befitting observance of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration and Programme of Action, which falls on 13 September 2019, by holding the high-level forum on that date, which will be an opportunity for renewing the commitments to strengthen further the global movement for the culture of peace;

18. *Invites* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, in consultation with the Member States and taking into account the observations of civil society organizations, to explore mechanisms and strategies, in particular strategies in the sphere of information and communications technology, for the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action and to initiate outreach efforts to increase global awareness of the Programme of Action and its eight areas of action aimed at their implementation, including through public information activities by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat for the observance of the twentieth anniversary;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report, within existing resources, on actions taken by Member States, on the basis of information provided by them, and those taken system-wide by all concerned entities of the United Nations to implement the present resolution and on heightened activities by the Organization and its affiliated agencies to implement the Programme of Action and to promote a culture of peace and non-violence;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Culture of peace".

## RESOLUTION 73/127

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 12 December 2018, by a recorded vote of 144 to 2, with no abstentions,\* on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.48](#) and [A/73/L.48/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

\* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstaining:* None

### 73/127. International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the Charter of the United Nations and its purposes and principles, and especially the commitment to settle disputes through peaceful means and the determination to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

*Acknowledging* that the approach of multilateralism and diplomacy could reinforce the advancement of the three pillars of the United Nations, namely, sustainable development, peace and security and human rights, which are interlinked and mutually reinforcing, while observing respective mandates and the Charter,

*Recognizing* the United Nations as the most representative international organization and the utmost expression of multilateralism, which is the main instrument to address multifaceted and complex global challenges through collective action,

*Recognizing also* the urgent need to promote and strengthen multilateralism and that the United Nations plays a central role in this regard,

*Recognizing further* the role of international, regional and subregional organizations in the promotion and preservation of multilateralism and in the facilitation of diplomacy, and noting in this regard the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and its political declaration of 26 September 2018,<sup>315</sup>

*Reaffirming* its resolutions [53/199](#) of 15 December 1998 and [61/185](#) of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years, and Economic and Social Council resolution [1980/67](#) of 25 July 1980 on international years

<sup>315</sup> [A/73/407](#), annex.

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and anniversaries, in particular paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for the proclamation of international years, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14, in which it is stated that an international day or year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

1. *Declares* 24 April as the International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace, with effect from the seventy-third session of the General Assembly;

2. *Underlines* that the International Day constitutes a means to promote the values of the United Nations and to reaffirm the faith of our peoples in the purposes and principles enshrined in its Charter, to reaffirm the importance and relevance of multilateralism and international law and to advance the common goal of lasting and sustained peace through diplomacy;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and individuals;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures and arrangements for the United Nations to commemorate and promote the International Day;

5. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to recommend ways and means by which the United Nations system and the Secretariat could assist Member States, upon request, in organizing activities to commemorate and promote the International Day;

6. *Invites* all Member States and observers of the United Nations, organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and individuals, to observe the International Day in an appropriate manner and to disseminate the advantages of multilateralism and diplomacy for peace, including through educational and public awareness-raising activities;

7. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to organize, on 24 April 2019, a one-day high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate and promote the International Day, with the participation of Member States and observers, as well as of the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General;

8. *Also invites* the President of the General Assembly to commemorate and promote, as appropriate, the International Day;

9. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions.

### RESOLUTION 73/128

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 12 December 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.52](#) and [A/73/L.52/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana, Guinea, India, Iraq, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Marshall Islands, Morocco, Myanmar, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

#### 73/128. Enlightenment and religious tolerance

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>316</sup> the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>317</sup> and the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,<sup>318</sup>

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<sup>316</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>317</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>318</sup> Resolution 36/55.

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*Reaffirming* that the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights provides, inter alia, that everyone shall have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, which shall include freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of one's choice and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, and to manifest one's religion or belief in worship, observance, practice and teaching,

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions, in particular resolutions [67/104](#) of 17 December 2012, [72/136](#) of 11 December 2017 and [72/176](#) and [72/177](#) of 19 December 2017, including on freedom of religion or belief and on the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace, and other related resolutions,

*Bearing in mind* that States have the primary responsibility to promote human rights, including the human rights of persons belonging to religious minorities, including their right to exercise their religion or belief freely,

*Recognizing* the valuable contribution of people of all religions or beliefs to humanity and the contribution that dialogue among religious groups can make towards an improved awareness and understanding of the common values shared by all humankind,

*Acknowledging* the diversity of the world and the fact that all cultures and civilizations contribute to the enrichment of humankind, recognizing the importance of respect and understanding for religious and cultural diversity throughout the world, and encouraging tolerance, respect, dialogue and cooperation among different cultures, civilizations and peoples,

*Welcoming* the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>319</sup> and acknowledging that the 2030 Agenda includes the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>320</sup> which provides an overview of the activities that have been carried out, since the adoption by the General Assembly of its resolutions [70/19](#) and [70/20](#) of 3 December 2015, by the main United Nations entities working in the areas of a culture of peace and interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace,

*Underlining* the importance of promoting education, peace, human rights, tolerance and friendship,

*Recognizing*, in this regard, the key role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in contributing to peace and security in the world by promoting collaboration among nations through education, science and culture,

*Recognizing also* the importance of inclusion, mutual respect, respect for human rights, tolerance and understanding, in order to build a more secure and peaceful world,

*Seriously concerned* by intolerance and the existence of discrimination on account of religion or belief, and by the ongoing violence in the world, in which terrorist groups have targeted people for their religion or beliefs,

*Considering* the value of education, including among others global citizenship education, and religious tolerance in promoting mutual understanding and respect among civilizations, cultures, religions and beliefs, in order to help to prevent actions incompatible with the Charter and relevant United Nations instruments,

*Welcoming*, in this regard, all international, regional and national initiatives aimed at promoting interreligious, intercultural and interfaith harmony and combating discrimination against individuals on the basis of religion or belief,

*Convinced* that promoting religious tolerance will contribute to the fulfilment of the goals of universal peace, social justice, friendship, the protection of human rights and the elimination of ignorance and practices of violence,

*Emphasizing* that States, regional organizations, national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies, the media and civil society as a whole have an important role to play in promoting tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity and in the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including freedom of religion or belief,

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<sup>319</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>320</sup> [A/73/391](#).



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1. *Welcomes* the invaluable contribution of the United Nations and the relevant entities of the United Nations system to strengthening dialogue in all its forms, including among and within religions or beliefs, and with broader participation, including of women, to promote greater tolerance, respect and mutual understanding;
2. *Also welcomes* the valuable role of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations in contributing towards a more peaceful, more socially inclusive world by promoting greater understanding and respect among civilizations, cultures, religions and beliefs;
3. *Calls upon* Member States to maintain a common stance in supporting the application of the principles and purposes of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief;<sup>318</sup>
4. *Urges* Member States to step up their efforts to protect and promote freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, and to this end:
  - (a) To promote, through education and other means, mutual understanding, tolerance, non-discrimination and respect in all matters relating to freedom of religion or belief by encouraging, in society at large, a wider knowledge of the diversity of religions and beliefs and of the history, traditions, languages and cultures of the various religious minorities existing within their jurisdiction;
  - (b) To support various types of intercultural engagement and peacebuilding at the national and international levels;
  - (c) To support research activities;
5. *Expresses deep concern* about all attacks on religious places, sites and shrines that violate international law, in particular international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments, including those carried out in connection with incitement to national, racial or religious hatred;
6. *Invites* Member States to implement appropriate communications strategies, such as wide-scale awareness-raising campaigns in national and international media, as well as through the Internet, and to disseminate educational information on tolerance, non-violence and freedom of religion or belief;
7. *Calls for* strengthened international efforts to foster a global dialogue on the promotion of a culture of tolerance and peace at all levels, based on respect for human rights and for the diversity of religions and beliefs.

### RESOLUTION 73/129

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 12 December 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.55](#) and [A/73/L.55/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Austria, Bangladesh, Benin, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Djibouti, Ecuador, Eritrea, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Morocco, Myanmar, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

#### **73/129. Promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>321</sup> in particular the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion,

*Recalling* its resolution [72/136](#) of 11 December 2017 on the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace and its other related resolutions,

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<sup>321</sup> Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

*Recalling also* that, in its resolution [67/104](#) of 17 December 2012, it proclaimed the period 2013–2022 the International Decade for the Rapprochement of Cultures and invited the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in that context, to be the lead agency in the United Nations system,

*Encouraging*, in this regard, activities aimed at promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue in order to enhance peace and social stability, respect for diversity and mutual respect and to create, at the global level, and also at the regional, national and local levels, an environment conducive to peace and mutual understanding,

*Recalling* its resolution [69/312](#) of 6 July 2015 on the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, in which it reaffirmed its support for the Alliance and reiterated the valuable role of the Alliance in promoting greater understanding and respect among civilizations, cultures, religions and beliefs,

*Recalling also* its resolution [72/241](#) of 20 December 2017 on a world against violence and violent extremism and its resolution [72/284](#) of 26 June 2018 on the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review,

*Recalling further* its resolution [53/22](#) of 4 November 1998, by which it declared 2001 the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations and expressed its firm determination to facilitate and promote dialogue among civilizations,

*Recalling* its resolution [36/55](#) of 25 November 1981, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

*Bearing in mind* the valuable contribution that interreligious and intercultural dialogue can make to an improved awareness and understanding of the common values shared by all humankind,

*Noting* that interreligious and intercultural dialogue has made significant contributions to mutual understanding, tolerance and respect, as well as to the promotion of a culture of peace and an improvement of overall relations among people from different cultural and religious backgrounds and among nations,

*Noting also* the growing importance of interreligious and intercultural dialogue in the context of the global phenomenon of migration, which increases interaction among persons and communities from various traditions, cultures and religions,

*Recognizing* that cultural diversity and the pursuit of cultural development by all peoples and nations are sources of mutual enrichment for the cultural life of humankind,

*Convinced* that the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance towards and dialogue among various cultures and civilizations would contribute to the efforts of all peoples and nations to enrich their cultures and traditions by engaging in a mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and intellectual, moral and material achievements,

*Noting* the Unite for Heritage campaign launched by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in March 2015, which aims to celebrate and safeguard cultural heritage and diversity around the world, and the Conference on Safeguarding Endangered Cultural Heritage, held in Abu Dhabi on 2 and 3 December 2016, and the declaration adopted at the Conference,

*Recalling* that States have the primary responsibility to promote and protect human rights, including the human rights of persons belonging to religious minorities, including their right to exercise their religion or belief freely,

*Bearing in mind* that tolerance of cultural, ethnic, religious and linguistic diversities contributes towards peace, mutual understanding and friendship among people of different cultures and nations and that these diversities should be made part of intercultural and interreligious dialogue efforts, as appropriate,

*Welcoming* the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>322</sup> and acknowledging that the 2030 Agenda includes the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development,

*Welcoming also* the various initiatives at the local, national, regional and international levels for enhancing interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation, and for strengthening people-to-people bonds, which are mutually reinforcing and interrelated, such as the establishment of the Hamad bin Khalifa Civilization Center in Copenhagen in 2014, the African Initiative on Education for Peace and Development through

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<sup>322</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

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Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue, launched in Cotonou, Benin, in May 2015, the thirteenth Doha Conference on Interfaith Dialogue, held in Qatar, the sixth Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, held in Astana in October 2018, the third World Nomad Games, held in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan, and organized under the patronage of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in September 2018, the establishment of the International Institute for Tolerance and the Muslim Council of Elders in the United Arab Emirates, in 2017, and the launch of the World Tolerance Summit, in Abu Dhabi, all of which contribute to promoting social cohesion, peace and development,

*Noting* the cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations in the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue,

*Noting also* the adoption of the Yerevan Declaration of the seventeenth Summit of Heads of State and Government of la Francophonie, on the theme “Living together”, held in Yerevan on 11 and 12 October 2018,

*Welcoming* the leading role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as well as the work of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, in promoting intercultural dialogue,

*Welcoming also* the work of the Anna Lindh Foundation and the ongoing work of the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue in Vienna,

*Noting* the declaration of the Forum on the Role of Religious Leaders in Preventing Incitement that could Lead to Atrocity Crimes, held in Fez, Morocco, on 23 and 24 April 2015, and further efforts that build on the Rabat Plan of Action on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence<sup>323</sup> and the Istanbul Process for Combating Intolerance, Discrimination and Incitement to Hatred and/or Violence on the Basis of Religion or Belief,

*Welcoming* the Declaration on Promoting Cultural Pluralism and Peace through Interfaith and Inter-ethnic Dialogue, endorsed by the 137th Assembly of the Inter Parliamentary Union, held in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 14 to 18 October 2017,

*Referring* to the World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue, organized biennially by Azerbaijan in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, the World Tourism Organization, the Council of Europe and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as a key global platform for promoting intercultural dialogue,<sup>324</sup>

*Acknowledging* the positive contribution of individuals and of relevant civil society organizations to the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and the culture of peace,

*Underlining* the importance of education, including education on culture, peace, tolerance, mutual understanding and human rights, in promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue, respect for diversity, and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

*Recognizing* the contributions of the media and of new information and communications technology to promoting peoples’ understanding of different cultures and religions, including through the promotion of dialogue,

*Reaffirming* the importance of sustaining the process of engaging all stakeholders, including young men and women as relevant actors, in interreligious and intercultural dialogue within the appropriate initiatives at various levels, which aims to challenge prejudices, improve mutual understanding and foster cooperation,

*Recognizing* the commitment of all religions to peace and the contribution that interreligious and intercultural dialogue among religions, groups and individuals, in particular religious leaders, can make towards an improved awareness and understanding of the common values shared by all humankind,

*Noting* the Appeal for Peace, signed by religious leaders during the World Day of Prayer for Peace, held in Assisi, Italy, on 20 September 2016,

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<sup>323</sup> A/HRC/22/17/Add.4, appendix.

<sup>324</sup> A/72/488, para. 40.

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1. *Reaffirms* that mutual understanding and interreligious and intercultural dialogue constitute important dimensions of the dialogue among civilizations and of the culture of peace;
2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the promotion of a culture of peace and interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace;<sup>325</sup>
3. *Recognizes* the importance of interreligious and intercultural dialogue and its valuable contribution to promoting social cohesion, peace and development, and calls upon Member States to consider, as appropriate and where applicable, interreligious and intercultural dialogue as an important tool in efforts aimed at achieving peace and social stability and the full realization of internationally agreed development goals;
4. *Also recognizes* the efforts by relevant stakeholders to foster peaceful and harmonious coexistence within societies by promoting respect for religious and cultural diversity, including by engendering sustained and robust interaction among various segments of society;
5. *Further recognizes* the leading role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on intercultural dialogue and its contribution to interreligious dialogue, as well as its activities related to the culture of peace and non-violence and its focus on concrete actions at the global, regional and subregional levels;
6. *Encourages* Member States and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to consider carrying out activities in support of the Action Plan for the International Decade for the Rapprochement of Cultures (2013–2022), adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,<sup>326</sup> which provides a framework for enhancing interreligious and intercultural dialogue and promoting tolerance and mutual understanding, while placing emphasis on the involvement of women and youth in such dialogue;
7. *Condemns* any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audiovisual or electronic media, social media or any other means;
8. *Reaffirms* the solemn commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for and observance and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>321</sup> and other instruments relating to human rights and international law, the universal nature of these rights and freedoms being beyond question;
9. *Welcomes* the declarations adopted by the Global Forums of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, and invites relevant stakeholders to continue their efforts to promote mutual understanding among different civilizations, cultures, religions and beliefs;
10. *Also welcomes* the joint statement issued by Spain and Turkey as co-sponsors of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations after the successful conclusion of the eighth global Forum of the Alliance, on the theme “#Commit2Dialogue: partnerships for prevention and sustaining peace”, held in New York on 19 and 20 November 2018, and invites relevant stakeholders to continue their efforts to promote cross-cultural dialogue and mutual understanding among different civilizations, cultures, religions and beliefs;
11. *Underlines* the importance of moderation as a value within societies for countering violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, while respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, and for further contributing to the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, tolerance, understanding and cooperation, and encourages efforts, as appropriate, to enable voices of moderation to work together in order to build a more secure, inclusive and peaceful world;
12. *Welcomes* the efforts by the media to promote interreligious and intercultural dialogue, encourages the further promotion of dialogue among the media from all cultures and civilizations, emphasizes that everyone has the right to freedom of expression, and reaffirms that the exercise of this right carries with it special duties and responsibilities and may therefore be subject to certain restrictions, but that these can be only such as are provided by law and necessary for respect of the rights or reputations of others, and protection of national security or of public order, or of public health or morals, and are non-discriminatory and applied in a manner that does not obstruct the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion;

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<sup>325</sup> [A/73/391](#).

<sup>326</sup> United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Executive Board decision 194 EX/10.

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13. *Also welcomes* the efforts to use information and communications technology, including the Internet, to promote interreligious and intercultural dialogue, including through the Interfaith Dialogue ePortal established following the Special Non-Aligned Movement Ministerial Meeting on Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation for Peace and Development, held in Manila in 2010, as well as the Peace and Dialogue ePortal of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and encourages relevant stakeholders to utilize the opportunity to disseminate their best practices and experiences on interreligious and intercultural dialogue by contributing to the Interfaith Dialogue ePortal and to the Peace and Dialogue ePortal;

14. *Encourages* Member States to consider, as and where appropriate, initiatives that identify areas for practical action in all sectors and levels of society for the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, tolerance, understanding and cooperation, inter alia, the ideas suggested during the High-level Dialogue on Interreligious and Intercultural Understanding and Cooperation for Peace, held in New York in October 2007, including the idea of an enhanced process of dialogue among world religions, as well as the ideas suggested during the third High Panel on Peace and Dialogue among Cultures, held in Paris in November 2012;

15. *Acknowledges* the active engagement of the United Nations system with faith-based and cultural organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations in the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue and in bringing together people of different cultures, religions, faiths or beliefs to discuss common issues and objectives;

16. *Also acknowledges* the important role of civil society, including academia, in fostering interreligious and intercultural dialogue, and encourages support for practical measures that mobilize civil society, including building capacities, opportunities and frameworks for cooperation;

17. *Invites* Member States to further promote reconciliation to help to ensure durable peace and sustained development, including by working with faith leaders and communities and through reconciliatory measures and acts of service and by encouraging forgiveness and compassion among individuals;

18. *Recognizes* that the Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat plays a valuable role as focal point within the Secretariat on the issue, and encourages it to continue to interact and coordinate with the relevant entities of the United Nations system and coordinate their contribution to the intergovernmental process aimed at promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

### RESOLUTION 73/130

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.54](#) and [A/73/L.54/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen

#### **73/130. Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolutions 3026 A (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, 3148 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, 3187 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3391 (XXX) of 19 November 1975, [31/40](#) of 30 November 1976, [32/18](#) of 11 November 1977, [33/50](#) of 14 December 1978, [34/64](#) of 29 November 1979, [35/127](#) and [35/128](#) of 11 December



1980, 36/64 of 27 November 1981, 38/34 of 25 November 1983, 40/19 of 21 November 1985, 42/7 of 22 October 1987, 44/18 of 6 November 1989, 46/10 of 22 October 1991, 48/15 of 2 November 1993, 50/56 of 11 December 1995, 52/24 of 25 November 1997, 54/190 of 17 December 1999, 56/97 of 14 December 2001, 58/17 of 3 December 2003, 61/52 of 4 December 2006, 64/78 of 7 December 2009, 67/80 of 12 December 2012 and 70/76 of 9 December 2015,

*Recalling also* the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property,<sup>327</sup> the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects,<sup>328</sup> the 1954 Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict<sup>329</sup> and the two Protocols thereto,<sup>330</sup> the 1972 Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage,<sup>331</sup> the 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage,<sup>332</sup> the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage<sup>333</sup> and the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions,<sup>334</sup>

*Appreciating* the decisions of the fourth meeting of States parties to the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, held in May 2017, which encouraged all States parties to ensure the exchange of experiences and the promotion of good practices with regard to countering trafficking in cultural property and with regard to its return or restitution to the countries of origin, underlined the obligation of all States parties to urgently implement the provisions of Security Council resolutions 2199 (2015) of 12 February 2015, in particular paragraphs 15 to 17, and 2253 (2015) of 17 December 2015, in particular paragraph 15, and invited States parties to provide information regularly to the secretariat of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the implementation of Council resolutions 2199 (2015), 2253 (2015), and 2347 (2017) of 24 March 2017,

*Noting* the adoption of the United Nations Convention on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property on 2 December 2004,<sup>335</sup> as it might apply to cultural property,

*Recalling* the adoption by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 17 October 2003 of the Declaration concerning the Intentional Destruction of Cultural Heritage,<sup>336</sup>

*Noting* the adoption by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 17 November 2015 of the Recommendation concerning the preservation of, and access to, documentary heritage, including in digital form,<sup>337</sup> and the Recommendation concerning the protection and promotion of museums and collections, their diversity and their role in society,<sup>338</sup>

*Recalling* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>339</sup> includes, inter alia, a pledge to foster intercultural understanding, tolerance, mutual respect and an ethic of global citizenship and shared responsibility, an acknowledgement of the natural and cultural diversity of the world and a recognition that all cultures and civilizations can contribute to, and are crucial enablers of, sustainable development, as well as targets related to the protection and return or restitution of cultural property,

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<sup>327</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 823, No. 11806.

<sup>328</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2421, No. 43718.

<sup>329</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 249, No. 3511.

<sup>330</sup> *Ibid.*, vols. 249 and 2253, No. 3511.

<sup>331</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1037, No. 15511.

<sup>332</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2562, No. 45694.

<sup>333</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2368, No. 42671.

<sup>334</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2440, No. 43977.

<sup>335</sup> Resolution 59/38, annex.

<sup>336</sup> United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-second Session, Paris, 29 September–17 October 2003*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, sect. IV, resolution 33, annex.

<sup>337</sup> United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-eighth Session, Paris, 3–18 November 2015*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, annex V.

<sup>338</sup> *Ibid.*, annex IV.

<sup>339</sup> Resolution 70/1.



*Recalling also* its resolution [69/196](#) of 18 December 2014, by which it adopted the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences, and acknowledging with appreciation the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing advisory services and technical assistance to Member States, upon their request, in the areas of crime prevention and criminal justice responses with respect to such trafficking,

*Recalling further* the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted on 19 April 2015,<sup>340</sup> and noting the commitment expressed by Member States therein to strengthen and implement comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice responses to illicit trafficking in cultural property for the purpose of providing the widest possible international cooperation to address such crime, to review and strengthen domestic legislation to counter trafficking in cultural property, where appropriate, in accordance with their commitments under international instruments, and to continue to gather and share information and statistical data on trafficking in cultural property, in particular on trafficking that involves organized criminal groups and terrorist organizations,

*Recalling* the resolution adopted by the Council of the World Customs Organization in July 2016 on the role of customs in preventing illicit trafficking in cultural objects,

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General submitted in cooperation with the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,<sup>341</sup>

*Aware* of the importance attached by the countries of origin to the return or restitution of cultural property that is of fundamental spiritual, historical and cultural value to them, so that they may constitute collections representative of their cultural heritage,

*Recognizing* that illicit trafficking in cultural property affects all regions of the world and that every country might at the same time be a source, transit and final destination area,

*Commending* Member States, cultural and educational institutions, museums and civil society for their efforts to combat illicit trade and trafficking in cultural property, and welcoming all initiatives, whether by States, institutions or private persons, for the voluntary return of cultural property that has been illicitly appropriated,

*Recalling* the Human Rights Council resolution on cultural rights and the protection of cultural heritage of 2018,<sup>342</sup> which notes with deep concern that the organized looting, smuggling and theft of and illicit trafficking in cultural property could undermine the full enjoyment of cultural rights, are contrary to international law and may, in some instances, generate funds for the financing of terrorism, and encourages the strengthening of dialogue and cooperation between relevant international organizations and States affected by the organized looting, smuggling and theft of and illicit trafficking in cultural property,

*Expressing deep concern* about the continuing illicit trafficking in cultural property and the ensuing damage to the cultural heritage of nations,

*Expressing deep concern also* that cultural property, including religious sites and ritual objects, is increasingly targeted by terrorist attacks and outlawed militias, often resulting in distortion, complete destruction, as well as theft and illicit trafficking, and condemning such attacks,

*Expressing deep concern further* about the loss, destruction, theft, pillage, illicit removal or misappropriation and illegal export of cultural property from archaeological sites, museums, libraries, archives and other sites and any acts of vandalism or damage directed against cultural property, in particular in areas of armed conflict, including territories that are occupied, whether such armed conflicts are international or non-international,

*Reaffirming*, in this regard, the necessity of strengthened international cooperation in preventing and combating all aspects of trafficking in cultural property, which is particularly at risk in the Middle East, and noting that such cultural property is often transferred either through illicit markets worldwide or through licit markets such as auctions, including through the Internet,

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<sup>340</sup> Resolution [70/174](#), annex.

<sup>341</sup> [A/73/390](#).

<sup>342</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/73/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A, resolution 37/17.

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*Recalling* its resolution 69/281 of 28 May 2015, entitled “Saving the cultural heritage of Iraq”,

*Recalling also* Security Council resolution 1483 (2003) of 22 May 2003, in particular paragraph 7, relating to the restitution of the cultural property of Iraq, and Council resolution 2056 (2012) of 5 July 2012 on the situation in Mali,

*Recalling further* Security Council resolution 2199 (2015), in particular paragraphs 15 to 17,

*Recalling* Security Council resolutions 2253 (2015), in particular paragraph 15, 2322 (2016) of 12 December 2016, in particular paragraph 12, and 2368 (2017) of 20 July 2017, in particular paragraph 7,

*Recalling also* Security Council resolution 2347 (2017), which is focused on the targeted destruction of cultural heritage in the context of armed conflicts, as well as on the protection of cultural property from looting, smuggling and illicit trafficking, notably by terrorist groups,

1. *Recognizes* the leading role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in combating trafficking in cultural property, within its specific mandate and within the context of Security Council resolutions 2199 (2015) and 2347 (2017), and encourages the Organization to continue to strengthen cooperation and synergies in this field with other international bodies, including the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Council of Museums and the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property;

2. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation on the work they have accomplished, in particular through the promotion of bilateral negotiations, for the return or restitution of cultural property of fundamental spiritual, historical and cultural value, the preparation of inventories of movable cultural property and the implementation of the Object-ID standard related thereto, as well as for the reduction of illicit traffic in cultural property, exchanges of experiences and good practices and the dissemination of information and tools to the public, institutions, Member States and others, and encourages the continuation of such endeavours;

3. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the launch of its international awareness-raising and training campaigns for heritage managers, decision makers, museum experts, law enforcement and customs authorities and legal experts from Member States in the African, Arab, Asia-Pacific, Eastern European, Latin American and Caribbean, and Western European regions, from 2015 to 2018, aimed at preventing the illicit import, export and transfer of ownership of cultural property by providing the legal and operational knowledge and directly applicable skills to strengthen the protection of cultural property, facilitate return or restitution processes and strengthen international cooperation;

4. *Also commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the launch of the Unite for Heritage campaign to raise the awareness of young people regarding the value of cultural heritage and the necessity to protect it, and calls upon Member States to promote and support that campaign;

5. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental organizations to work in coordination with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, within their mandates and in cooperation with Member States, in order to continue to address the issue of return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin and to provide appropriate support accordingly;

6. *Reaffirms* the importance of the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property,<sup>327</sup> the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects,<sup>328</sup> the 1954 Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict<sup>329</sup> and the two Protocols thereto,<sup>330</sup> the 1972 Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage,<sup>331</sup> the 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage,<sup>332</sup> the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage<sup>333</sup> and the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions,<sup>334</sup> and invites Member States that have not already done so to consider becoming parties to the aforementioned conventions and protocols that specifically address the return and restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin;

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7. *Takes note* of the declarations and recommendations of the international forums on the return of cultural property, held in Seoul in July 2011 and October 2012, in Olympia, Greece, in October 2013, in Dunhuang, China, in September 2014 and in Nevşehir, Turkey, in October 2015;

8. *Acknowledges* the launch of the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention Academic Project and the creation of the Informal Ratification Task Force as a platform for the exchange of views, information and assistance on issues such as the ratification and implementation of the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects;

9. *Takes note* of the role of the subsidiary committee of the meeting of States parties to the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, which, inter alia, promotes the purposes of the Convention, reviews national reports and prepares and submits to the meeting of States parties recommendations and guidelines that may contribute to the implementation of the Convention and identify problems arising from its implementation, while fostering exchanges of experiences and good practices;

10. *Welcomes* the decisions of the third meeting of the States parties to the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, in particular the decision to adopt the operational guidelines for the implementation of the Convention;

11. *Recognizes* the importance of the United Nations Convention on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property,<sup>335</sup> notes that the Convention has still not entered into force, and invites Member States that have not already done so to consider becoming parties to the Convention;

12. *Deplores* damage to the cultural heritage of countries in situations of crisis, conflict and post-conflict, in particular recent attacks on world cultural heritage sites, calls for an immediate end to such acts, and reminds States parties to the 1954 Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and to the two Protocols thereto of the provisions contained therein to safeguard and respect cultural property and to prohibit, prevent and, if necessary, put a stop to any form of theft, pillage or misappropriation of and any acts of vandalism directed against cultural property;

13. *Calls upon* all Member States in a position to do so to assist the affected States in combating trafficking in cultural property illegally excavated from archaeological sites and taken from museums, libraries, archives and manuscript collections, including through international cooperation in the return or restitution of stolen or illicitly exported cultural property, as appropriate;

14. *Welcomes* the most recent efforts made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for the protection of the cultural heritage of countries in conflict, in particular in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic, including the safe return to those countries of cultural property and other items of archaeological, historical, cultural, rare scientific and religious importance that have been illegally removed, and calls upon the international community to contribute to these efforts;

15. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the adoption by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-eighth session, in November 2015, of the strategy for the reinforcement of the Organization's action for the protection of culture and the promotion of cultural pluralism in the event of armed conflict,<sup>343</sup> in particular as it relates to the countering of looting and illicit trafficking in cultural property during conflicts;

16. *Urges* Member States, including, upon request, with the assistance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and in close cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and INTERPOL, as appropriate, to introduce effective national and international measures to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in cultural property, including by publicizing legislation, in particular in the Database of National Cultural Heritage Laws of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and by offering special training for police, customs and border services, and invites Member States to make trafficking in cultural property,

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<sup>343</sup> See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-eighth Session, Paris, 3–18 November 2015*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, sect. IV, resolution 48.

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including stealing from and looting of archaeological and other cultural sites, a serious crime, as defined in article 2 of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>344</sup> with a view to fully utilizing that Convention for the purpose of extensive international cooperation in fighting all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences;

17. *Encourages* all Member States to establish, where they do not yet exist, with the assistance of INTERPOL, upon request, specialized police units exclusively dedicated to the protection of cultural heritage to investigate cases of trafficking in cultural property, and a national stolen works of art database directly connected with the corresponding INTERPOL database;

18. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Council of Europe Convention on Offences relating to Cultural Property, which was opened for signature in Nicosia on 19 May 2017, and invites Member States to consider becoming parties to the Convention;

19. *Urges* all Member States to take appropriate measures to ensure that all actors involved in the trade of cultural property, including but not limited to auction houses, art dealers, art collectors, museum professionals and managers of online marketplaces, are required to provide verifiable documentation of provenance as well as export certificates, as applicable, related to any cultural property imported, exported or offered for sale, including through the Internet;

20. *Invites* States parties to the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property to apply the operational guidelines for the implementation of the 1970 Convention, which represent a useful tool to guide and assist States parties in implementing the Convention, including by learning from good practices of States parties geared to enhancing the effective implementation of the Convention, and to identify ways and means to further the achievement of the goals of the Convention through strengthened international cooperation;

21. *Reiterates its strong encouragement* to Member States to apply, to the maximum extent possible, where appropriate, with a view to strengthening international cooperation in this field, the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences,<sup>345</sup> which represent a useful framework to guide Member States in the development and strengthening of their criminal justice policies, strategies, legislation and cooperation mechanisms in the area of protection against trafficking in cultural property and other related offences;

22. *Invites* Member States, in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to continue to draw up systematic inventories of their cultural property, including in digital form;

23. *Also invites* Member States to consider establishing and developing national, regional and international databases inventorying cultural property, which would also register trafficked, illicitly exported or imported, stolen, looted or illicitly excavated, and illicitly dealt-in, cultural property, and encourages Member States, in particular their law enforcement authorities, to enhance the exchange of information by sharing or interconnecting inventories of cultural property and databases on trafficked, illicitly exported or imported, stolen, looted or illicitly excavated, and illicitly dealt-in, cultural property and contributing to international inventories and databases;

24. *Recognizes* the improvement of the Database of National Cultural Heritage Laws of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which includes legislation from 190 Member States and translations into at least one of the official languages of the United Nations, and invites Member States to provide their legislation in electronic format for inclusion in the database if they have not yet done so, to provide regular updates to the database and to promote it;

25. *Applauds* the efforts of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to promote the use of identification and inventory systems, in particular the application of the Object-ID standard, and to encourage the linking of identification systems and existing databases, including the one developed by INTERPOL,

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<sup>344</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

<sup>345</sup> Resolution 69/196, annex.

to allow for the electronic transmission of information in order to reduce illicit trafficking in cultural property, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to make further efforts in this regard in cooperation with Member States, where appropriate;

26. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the Red Lists of Cultural Objects at Risk of the International Council of Museums and the INTERPOL database of stolen works of art as tools in the fight against illicit trafficking in cultural property, and calls upon all Member States to use those tools, as appropriate;

27. *Notes* the adoption by the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation, at its sixteenth session, of the rules of procedure on mediation and conciliation,<sup>346</sup> and invites Member States to consider the possibility of using such processes, as appropriate;

28. *Encourages* Member States to consider using the model provisions of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law on State ownership of undiscovered cultural objects and adopting effective legislation for the establishment and recognition of States' ownership of their heritage, as appropriate under national laws, with a view to facilitating return or restitution in cases of unlawful removal;

29. *Notes with appreciation* the Model Export Certificate for Cultural Objects developed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Customs Organization as a tool to combat illicit trafficking in cultural property, and invites Member States to consider adopting the Model Export Certificate as their national export certificate, in accordance with domestic law and procedures;

30. *Takes note* of the resolution adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-ninth session, in November 2017, on strengthening the implementation of the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property;<sup>347</sup>

31. *Recognizes* the public awareness and increased mobilization and action in favour of heritage values achieved in 2002, the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, and on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, and calls upon the international community and the United Nations to continue to cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the basis of that work;

32. *Invites* those who deal with trade in cultural property and their associations, where they exist, to encourage the effective implementation of the International Code of Ethics for Dealers in Cultural Property, as endorsed by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 16 November 1999,<sup>348</sup> the International Council of Museums Code of Ethics for Museums and other existing codes;

33. *Welcomes* the recently launched partnerships between the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and cultural institutions, encompassing several lines of action aimed at combating illicit trafficking in cultural property, in order to implement awareness-raising activities for the general public, close collaboration and information exchange and cooperation on training and capacity-building initiatives, and encourages the development of further partnerships;

34. *Highlights* the importance of the continued efforts of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to strengthen discussions with art market professionals in order to improve existing codes of ethics, professional practices and trade, raise awareness and provide education in areas such as provenance investigations, due diligence exercises, return or restitution procedures, the use of practical tools and appropriate knowledge of the international legal framework;

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<sup>346</sup> A/67/219, annex I, recommendation No. 4.

<sup>347</sup> United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-ninth Session, Paris, 30 October–14 November 2017*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, sect. IV, resolution 34.

<sup>348</sup> See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirtieth Session, Paris, 26 October–17 November 1999*, vol. 1 and corrigendum, *Resolutions*, sect. IV, resolution 27.

35. *Recognizes* the importance of the International Fund for the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation, launched in November 2000, and invites Member States to increase further their voluntary contributions to the Fund in order to enhance its efficiency, and to make use of it, as appropriate;

36. *Takes note* of the Heritage Emergency Fund of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the international fund for the protection of endangered cultural heritage in armed conflict, as announced in Abu Dhabi on 3 December 2016, and other initiatives in this regard, and encourages Member States to provide financial contributions to support preventive and emergency operations, including, as appropriate, through documentation and consolidation of their cultural property in a network of “safe havens” in their own territories to protect their property, fight against illicit trafficking in cultural property and undertake all appropriate efforts for the recovery of cultural heritage, in the spirit of the principles of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization conventions;

37. *Recognizes* the importance of cooperation among States in the fight against illicit trafficking in cultural property, as well as its illegal removal from the countries of origin, through, inter alia, the conclusion of bilateral agreements and mutual legal assistance, including the prosecution of persons involved in such activities and extradition, in accordance with the laws of cooperating States and under applicable international law;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in its efforts to bring about the attainment of the objectives of the present resolution;

39. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

40. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-sixth session the item entitled “Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin”.

### RESOLUTION 73/131

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.37](#), submitted by the President of the General Assembly

#### **73/131. Scope, modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting on universal health coverage**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recognizing* that, through the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>349</sup> and its Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015, Heads of State and Government made a bold commitment to achieve universal health coverage by 2030, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all,

*Recalling* its resolution [71/159](#) of 15 December 2016, entitled “Global health and foreign policy: health employment and economic growth”, which underlined the primary responsibility of Member States to accelerate the transition towards universal health coverage,

*Recalling also* its resolution [72/139](#) of 12 December 2017, entitled “Global health and foreign policy: addressing the health of the most vulnerable for an inclusive society”, in which it decided to hold a high-level meeting in 2019 on universal health coverage,

*Recalling further* its resolution [67/81](#) of 12 December 2012, entitled “Global health and foreign policy”, in which it recognized the responsibility of Governments to urgently and significantly scale up efforts to accelerate the transition towards universal access to affordable and quality health-care services, and that effective and financially sustainable implementation of universal health coverage is based on a resilient and responsive health system, and reaffirming the primary responsibility of Member States to determine and promote their own paths towards achieving universal health coverage,

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<sup>349</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).



*Recalling* its resolution [72/138](#) of 12 December 2017, entitled “International Universal Health Coverage Day”, in which it decided to proclaim 12 December as International Universal Health Coverage Day,

*Recognizing* that health is a precondition for and an outcome and indicator of all three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – of sustainable development and that, despite progress made, challenges in global health, including major inequities and vulnerabilities within and among countries, regions and populations, still remain and demand persistent attention,

*Emphasizing* the need for the high-level meeting to complement and build on preceding and ongoing health processes and initiatives, including the high-level meeting on HIV/AIDS held in New York from 8 to 10 June 2016 and the high-level meeting on antimicrobial resistance held in New York on 21 September 2016, as well as the high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis and the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, convened in New York on 26 and 27 September 2018, respectively,

*Welcoming* the convening of the Global Conference on Primary Health Care, on achieving universal health coverage and the Sustainable Development Goals, held in Astana on 25 and 26 October 2018, in celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the Declaration of Alma-Ata, which may contribute to the debates of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on universal health coverage,

1. *Decides* that the one-day high-level meeting on universal health coverage to be convened by the President of the General Assembly shall be held in New York a day before the start of the general debate of the Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m., and consist of an opening segment, a plenary segment for general discussion, two multi-stakeholder panels and a brief closing segment;

2. *Also decides* that the overall theme of the high-level meeting will be “Universal health coverage: moving together to build a healthier world”;

3. *Further decides* that:

(a) The opening segment, to be held from 9 to 9.30 a.m., will feature statements by the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, the Secretary-General, the Director General of the World Health Organization, the President of the World Bank Group, as well as an eminent high-level champion of universal health coverage, selected, in consultation with Member States, by the President of the Assembly, giving due consideration to gender equity;

(b) The plenary segment, to be held from 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 5.30 p.m., will comprise statements by Member States and observers of the General Assembly; a list of speakers will be established in accordance with established practices of the Assembly, and the time limits for these statements will be three minutes for individual delegations and five minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of States;

(c) The closing segment, to be held from 5.30 to 6 p.m., will comprise summaries of the multi-stakeholder panels and concluding remarks by the President of the General Assembly;

4. *Decides* that the organizational arrangements for the two multi-stakeholder panels will be as follows:

(a) Two multi-stakeholder panels will be held in parallel to the plenary segment, one from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the other from 3 to 5 p.m.;

(b) Each of the two multi-stakeholder panels will be co-chaired by two representatives, one from a developed country and one from a developing country, to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly from among the Heads of State or Government attending the high-level meeting, in consultation with Member States, taking into account gender equity, level of development and geographical representation;

(c) The themes of the multi-stakeholder panels will take into consideration the direction and outcomes of other preceding health processes and initiatives, as well as the interactive multi-stakeholder hearing, with a view to ensuring the most effective and efficient outcomes and potential deliverables and to sharing experiences and lessons learned to address remaining implementation gaps;

(d) The President of the General Assembly may invite parliamentarians, local governments, the heads or senior representatives of relevant United Nations entities, including the World Bank, development partners, civil society, the

## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

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private sector, academia, medical associations, indigenous leadership and community organizations to serve as speakers on the panels, taking into account gender equity, level of development and geographical representation;

5. *Also decides* that the high-level meeting shall approve a concise and action-oriented political declaration, agreed in advance by consensus through intergovernmental negotiations, to be submitted by the President of the General Assembly for adoption by the Assembly;

6. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, with the support of the World Health Organization and other relevant partners, to organize and preside over an interactive multi-stakeholder hearing, before the end of July 2019, with the active participation of appropriate senior-level representatives of Member States, observers of the General Assembly, parliamentarians, representatives of local government, relevant United Nations entities, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, invited civil society organizations, philanthropic foundations, academia, medical associations, the private sector and broader communities, ensuring the participation and voices of women, children, youth and indigenous leadership, as part of the preparatory process for the high-level meeting, and also requests the President to prepare a summary of the hearing prior to the high-level meeting;

7. *Encourages* all Member States to participate in the high-level meeting, including the multi-stakeholder panels, at the highest possible level, preferably at the level of Heads of State and Government, and invites all observers of the General Assembly to be represented at the highest possible level;

8. *Invites* the United Nations system, including funds, programmes and specialized agencies, including the World Health Organization, regional commissions and relevant envoys of the Secretary-General, to participate in the high-level meeting, as appropriate, and urges them to consider relevant initiatives, such as the International Health Partnership for UHC2030, in support of the preparatory process and the meeting, particularly with regard to sharing evidence and good practices, challenges and lessons learned;

9. *Invites* the Inter-Parliamentary Union to contribute to the high-level meeting;

10. *Invites* non-governmental organizations with relevant expertise that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to register with the Secretariat to attend the meeting and the interactive multi-stakeholder hearing;

11. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of other relevant representatives of relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector who may attend the high-level meeting and participate in the interactive multi-stakeholder hearing and the multi-stakeholder panels, taking into account the principles of transparency and equitable geographical representation, with due regard to the meaningful participation of women, and to submit the list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis;<sup>350</sup>

12. *Invites* members of civil society, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, academia, development partners and other relevant initiatives to make a fundamental contribution to the process in terms of raising awareness of the importance of universal health coverage and its contribution towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;<sup>349</sup>

13. *Encourages* Member States to consider including in their national delegations ministers from all relevant ministries, as appropriate, as well as representatives such as parliamentarians, mayors and governors, representatives of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, indigenous leadership, community organizations and faith-based organizations, academia, philanthropic foundations, the private sector and universal health coverage networks, with due regard to gender equity;

14. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-third session to finalize the organizational arrangements for the high-level meeting, in close consultation with Member States, including the themes of the multi-stakeholder panels in line with paragraph 4 (c) of the present resolution.

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<sup>350</sup> The list of proposed as well as final names will be brought to the attention of the General Assembly. Where a name is objected to, the objecting Member State will, on a voluntary basis, make known to the Office of the President of the General Assembly the general basis of its objections and the Office will share any information received with any Member State upon its request.

## RESOLUTION 73/132

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2018, by a recorded vote of 157 to 2, with 1 abstention,\* on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.62](#) and [A/73/L.62/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, France, Gambia, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Norway, Philippines, Portugal, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, South Africa, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Uruguay, Viet Nam

\* *In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Libya, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Hungary

### 73/132. Global health and foreign policy: a healthier world through better nutrition

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [63/33](#) of 26 November 2008, [64/108](#) of 10 December 2009, [65/95](#) of 9 December 2010, [66/115](#) of 12 December 2011, [67/81](#) of 12 December 2012, [68/98](#) of 11 December 2013, [69/132](#) of 11 December 2014, [70/183](#) of 17 December 2015, [71/159](#) of 15 December 2016 and [72/139](#) of 12 December 2017,

*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,

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>351</sup> international humanitarian law, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights<sup>352</sup> and the Constitution of the World Health Organization,<sup>353</sup>

*Reaffirming* the right of every human being, without distinction of any kind, to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of oneself and one's family, including adequate food, clothing and housing, and to the continuous improvement of living

<sup>351</sup> Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

<sup>352</sup> See resolution [2200 A \(XXI\)](#), annex.

<sup>353</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 14, No. 221.

conditions, with particular attention to the alarming situation of millions of people for whom access to health-care services and medicines remains a distant goal, in particular those who are vulnerable or in vulnerable situations,

*Noting* the significant role of the Foreign Policy and Global Health Initiative in promoting synergies between foreign policy and global health, as well as the contribution of the Oslo Ministerial Declaration of 20 March 2007, entitled “Global health: a pressing foreign policy issue of our time”,<sup>354</sup> which was reaffirmed, with renewed actions and commitments, in the ministerial communiqué of the Initiative, entitled “Renewing 10 years of concerted efforts and preparing for new challenges”, of 22 September 2017,<sup>355</sup>

*Reaffirming* the commitment to fully and effectively implement the Beijing Platform for Action,<sup>356</sup> the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development<sup>357</sup> and the outcomes of their review conferences, including the commitments relating to sexual and reproductive health and the promotion and protection of all human rights,

*Recognizing* that women and girls play a vital role as agents of development, acknowledging that achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls are crucial to the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and recognizing also that nutrition and other related policies should be sensitive to the needs of women and empower women and girls, thereby contributing to women’s equal access to social protection and resources, including income, land, water, finance, education, training, science and technology, and health services, thus promoting food security and health,

*Noting* the importance of health across all the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, as well as the need for a holistic approach, in particular, in this context, the essential role of food security, improved nutrition and healthy diets and lifestyles in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, with a view to leaving no one behind, reaching the furthest behind first,

*Recognizing* that health is a precondition for and an outcome and indicator of all Sustainable Development Goals, that, despite progress made, challenges in global health still remain, with special regard to inequities and vulnerabilities within and among countries, regions and populations, and that investments in health contribute to sustainable, inclusive economic growth, social development, environmental protection, eradication of poverty and hunger, achieving gender equality and reducing inequalities,

*Underscoring* the fact that global health is a long-term objective which is national, regional and international in scope and requires sustained high-level commitment and closer international cooperation, including far-reaching partnerships among stakeholders, and the need to safeguard the progress made and to advance by paying due attention to the continuity and sustainability of current actions on global health,

*Affirming* the primary responsibility of Member States to determine and promote their own path towards achieving universal health coverage that comprises universal and equitable access to quality health services and quality, essential, affordable and effective medicines for all, while ensuring that the use of such services and medicines does not expose the users to financial hardship, with particular attention to those who are vulnerable or in vulnerable situations, and that is critical to promote physical and mental health and well-being, especially through primary health care, health services and social protection mechanisms, including through community outreach and private sector engagement, and with the support of the international community,

*Recalling* the Rio Political Declaration on Social Determinants of Health, adopted at the 2011 World Conference on Social Determinants of Health, which reaffirmed that health inequities within and between countries are politically, socially and economically unacceptable, as well as unfair and largely avoidable, and noting that many of the underlying determinants of health and risk factors of communicable and non-communicable diseases are associated with social, economic, environmental and behavioural conditions,

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<sup>354</sup> A/63/591, annex.

<sup>355</sup> A/72/559, annex.

<sup>356</sup> *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, annex II.

<sup>357</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

*Recognizing* the outcome of the Global Conference on Primary Health Care and its contribution to the renewal of the commitments made through the Declaration of Alma-Ata of 1978 and the central role of primary health care in achieving universal health coverage and contributing to health worldwide,

*Recalling* the World Health Organization Global Strategy and Plan of Action on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property,<sup>358</sup> designed to promote medicinal innovation, build capacity and improve access to medicines, encouraging further discussions on access to medicines, and reiterating that health research and development should be needs-driven, evidence-based, guided by the core principles of affordability, effectiveness, efficiency and equity and considered a shared responsibility, recalling the report of the High-level Panel on Access to Medicines, including its recommendations,

*Recalling also* the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and its Framework for Action,<sup>359</sup> which provides a set of voluntary policy options and strategies for use by Governments, as appropriate, adopted by the Second International Conference on Nutrition, to enhance sustainable food systems by developing coherent public policies from production to consumption and across relevant sectors to provide year-round access and affordability to food that meets people's nutrition needs and promote safe and diversified healthy diets and to empower people and create an enabling environment for making informed choices about food products for healthy dietary practices and appropriate infant and young child feeding practices through improved health and nutrition information and education,

*Recognizing* the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger and all forms of malnutrition, and encouraging international cooperation and assistance to support the efforts of Member States in this regard, as well as to achieve health goals, implement universal access to health services and address health challenges, and increase food production and access to healthy and nutritious food and its utilization, while taking into account different national circumstances and capacities and respecting national policies and priorities,

*Recognizing also* the need to eradicate hunger and prevent all forms of malnutrition worldwide, including undernourishment, stunting, wasting, underweight and overweight in all age groups, in particular among children under 5 years of age, and deficiencies in micronutrients, in particular vitamin A, iodine, iron and zinc, among others, and conscious that multiple forms of malnutrition can affect all countries, can occur not only within countries and communities but also within households, and can affect the same person multiple times over his or her lifetime,

*Recognizing further* that undernutrition and overweight and obesity are commonly referred to as the double burden of malnutrition, and expressing concern about the burden of diet-related non-communicable diseases in all age groups and the rising trends of undernourishment and overweight and obesity, as well as the increase in anaemia among women and the still unacceptably high levels of stunting in children, recognizing that rapid demographic, social and economic changes in many countries have led to increased urbanization and changes in food systems, lifestyles, eating habits and global consumption and production patterns that have brought about a nutrition transition,

*Expressing concern* about the increasing number of people facing crisis-level food insecurity or worse, up from almost 108 million in 2016 to 124 million in 2017 in countries affected by, inter alia, conflict and exacerbated by climate-related events, environmental factors, including natural disasters, and excessive food price volatility,

*Recognizing* the essential contribution that older persons can continue to make to the functioning of societies and towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and concerned that many health systems are not sufficiently prepared to respond to the need for promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative, palliative and specialized care,

*Reaffirming* the right of everyone, including refugees and migrants, to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, and noting the references to health and food security in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and the references to health, food security and nutrition in the global compact on refugees, respectively,

*Recognizing* the particular needs of people living in areas affected by complex humanitarian emergencies, and expressing concern that the most vulnerable in areas affected by armed conflicts as well as natural disasters often have

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<sup>358</sup> See World Health Organization, document WHA61/2008/REC/1.

<sup>359</sup> World Health Organization, document EB136/8, annexes I and II.

no or limited access to health services and to adequate nutritious foods to prevent hunger and promote health and, moreover, that attacks against medical personnel and facilities have immediate and long-term consequences for health-care systems,

*Underlining* the urgency of having strong and resilient health systems, with adequately trained and remunerated health workers in decent jobs, reaching those who are vulnerable or in vulnerable situations, and capable of effectively addressing all health needs, including pandemic surveillance and preparedness and the implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005),<sup>360</sup>

*Recognizing* the global challenge of antimicrobial resistance, which requires multisectoral actions, through the One Health approach involving the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Organization for Animal Health and other relevant stakeholders, such as the United Nations Environment Programme and the Codex Alimentarius Commission, reaffirming the importance of the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance,<sup>361</sup> looking forward to the report on the issue to be submitted by the Secretary-General for consideration by Member States at the seventy-third session of the Assembly, and recognizing also the results of the efforts made by the ad hoc inter-agency coordination group on antimicrobial resistance,

*Recognizing also* that coordinated health, social, economic and nutrition-related policies are needed to address the health of the most vulnerable and marginalized, who are often victims of inequity, inequality, discrimination, stigmatization, social exclusion and violence, and are the most exposed to health risk factors, owing mostly to their poor living conditions, poor health literacy and lack of access to health care and other relevant services,

*Acknowledging* that the promotion of health equity and the elimination of stigma and discrimination in health-care settings are important for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and building a more inclusive society whereby those who are vulnerable or in vulnerable situations, especially women and girls, older persons, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, persons living with mental health conditions or psychological disabilities, and those living with, at risk of or affected by communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and cholera, and non-communicable and other diseases, will have a better quality of life and well-being, and in this regard taking note of the joint United Nations statement on ending discrimination in health-care settings,

*Reiterating* the importance of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025), and its call for, inter alia, the scaling up of implementation of national commitments and increasing investments for nutrition,

*Welcoming* the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028), and in this regard encouraging the full implementation of its resolution 72/239 of 20 December 2017, in which it recognized the role that family farms play in improving nutrition and ensuring global food security, eradicating poverty, ending hunger, conserving biodiversity, achieving environmental sustainability and helping to address migration,

*Recalling* the World Health Organization Comprehensive Implementation Plan on Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition<sup>362</sup> and the World Health Organization Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013–2020,<sup>363</sup>

*Taking note* of the work of the Committee on World Food Security on preparing the draft voluntary guidelines on food systems and nutrition of the Committee, in support of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025), based on the twelfth report of the High Level Panel of Experts on Nutrition and Food Systems of the Committee,

*Acknowledging* the convening of Nutrition for Growth events in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2016 and in Milan, Italy, in 2017, and the Partners' Forum 2018 in New Delhi in December 2018, by the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, and looking forward to the upcoming Nutrition for Growth summit in Tokyo in 2020,

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<sup>360</sup> World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1, resolution 58.3, annex.

<sup>361</sup> Resolution 71/3.

<sup>362</sup> See World Health Organization, document WHA65/2012/REC/1.

<sup>363</sup> See World Health Organization, document WHA66/2013/REC/1.



*Reaffirming* the right to use, to the fullest extent, the provisions contained in the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement), which provides flexibilities for the protection of public health and promotes access to medicines for all, in particular for developing countries, and the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which recognizes that intellectual property protection is important for the development of new medicines and also recognizes the concerns about its effects on prices,

*Recognizing* that rapidly changing technologies, particularly digital technologies, have the potential to enhance people's access to health services, to improve the responsiveness of the health system to the needs of individuals and communities, to increase the quality and efficiency of health services and to empower individuals and communities in healthy lifestyles and practices,

*Emphasizing* that the United Nations system has an important responsibility and role to assist Member States in the follow-up to and full implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the major United Nations conferences and summits, especially those focusing on health-related areas, and emphasizing also the primary role of the World Health Organization, as the United Nations specialized agency for health,

*Recognizing* the need for a strong global partnership for sustainable development, which engages all stakeholders, including the private sector, civil society, the United Nations system and other actors, to mobilize all necessary financial and non-financial means to collaboratively support the efforts of Member States to achieve health-related Sustainable Development Goals, including addressing the health needs of those who are vulnerable or in vulnerable situations,

*Recognizing also* the work and collaboration between United Nations agencies focusing on nutrition-related programmes and activities, such as the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the Committee on World Food Security and the Standing Committee on Nutrition, and other relevant agencies, along with regional economic commissions, and encouraging further collaboration on the matter,

*Reaffirming* its resolution [71/243](#) of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and the general guidelines and principles contained therein, and reaffirming also 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,

*Emphasizing* the importance of seeking synergies and collaboration with other relevant actors within and outside the United Nations system, such as the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and the World Bank, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, UNTAID, Gavi, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, the Global Financing Facility in support of Every Woman, Every Child, the Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative, the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, the Scaling Up Nutrition movement, the International Health Partnership for UHC2030, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to address the health needs of those who are vulnerable or in vulnerable situations,

*Expressing concern* that mechanisms addressing issues at the nexus between nutrition and global health, such as the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, are facing a serious shortage in resources,

*Recognizing* that tackling the root causes of and risk factors leading to malnutrition in all its forms is a complex and multidimensional challenge, demanding strong and sustained political leadership, policy coherence at all levels and concerted, sustained and intersectoral efforts,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to reinforce actions towards the improvement of nutrition, health conditions and living standards of populations around the globe as a key element of strategies for the eradication of all forms of malnutrition and poverty in all its forms and dimensions, as well as the promotion of sustainable development;

2. *Also calls upon* Member States to address hunger and malnutrition in all its forms as an issue that affects all nations, while acknowledging that wide inequalities exist in nutritional status, exposure to risk and nutritional intake, within and among countries, particularly in developing countries;

3. *Urges* Member States to promote food security and food safety, adequate nutrition and sustainable, resilient and diverse nutrition-sensitive food systems as central elements for healthier populations and as a fundamental tool to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and targets,<sup>364</sup> aiming at a world free from malnutrition in all its forms, where all people throughout their life course and at all times have access to adequate food and enjoy diversified, balanced and healthy diets for an active and healthy life;

4. *Also urges* Member States to put into practice, as appropriate, a comprehensive implementation plan on maternal, infant and young child nutrition, including by developing or, where necessary, strengthening nutrition policies and legislative, regulatory and/or other effective measures to control the marketing of breast-milk substitutes, and establishing effective intersectoral governance mechanisms in order to expand the implementation of nutrition actions;

5. *Encourages* Member States to protect and promote adequate nutrition for women, girls and infants, especially during pregnancy and lactation, when the nutritional requirements are increased, with special attention to the first 1,000 days, from the start of pregnancy to the age of 2 years, by promoting and supporting adequate care and feeding practices, including exclusive breastfeeding during the first six months and continued breastfeeding until the age of 2 years and beyond, with appropriate complementary feeding;

6. *Also encourages* Member States to develop health- and nutrition-promoting environments, including through nutrition education in schools and other education institutions, as appropriate, and to scale up community-based actions that support children and families, through the promotion of maternal health and recommended infant feeding practices such as breastfeeding;

7. *Calls upon* Member States to consider ratifying or implementing, as appropriate, the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>365</sup> which recognizes the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and states that appropriate measures shall be taken to combat disease and malnutrition, giving due attention, inter alia, to its provisions on nutritious foods and breastfeeding;

8. *Recalls* that undernutrition hinders individuals, particularly women, children and older persons, from reaching their full potential, and urges Member States to take urgent action to address the unacceptably high levels of child stunting and the growing rates of undernourishment and overweight and obesity, which have a deleterious impact on social and economic development;

9. *Encourages* the incorporation of nutrition objectives into social protection programmes and the implementation of programmes such as cash transfers, school feeding and targeted food assistance to improve diets through better access to food which conforms to the beliefs, culture, traditions, dietary habits and preferences of individuals, and which is nutritionally adequate;

10. *Calls upon* Member States to promote healthy diets and lifestyles, including physical activity, through actions and policies, as appropriate, to implement all nutrition-related commitments, including those made by Heads of State and Government at the high-level meetings of the General Assembly on non-communicable diseases, as well as the World Health Assembly, aiming at minimizing the impact of the main risk factors for non-communicable diseases, and to address malnutrition in all its forms by intensifying their efforts and scaling up their activities under the work programme of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025);

11. *Also calls upon* Member States to develop, implement, monitor and review multisectoral policies and programmes, as well as public health awareness campaigns and nutrition education, and human resources development of nutritionists, and to share best practices, aimed at reducing the growing undernourishment and the rapid increase in overweight and obesity, which is fast becoming a global epidemic;

12. *Highlights* the need for coherent and consistent policies to tackle overweight and obesity in order to reduce prevalence rates and counter rising levels of nutrition-related non-communicable diseases, including through fostering and encouraging healthy behaviour and lifestyles, including healthy dietary choices and regular physical activity, through education, and targeted mass and social media campaigns taking into account that overweight and obesity are key modifiable and preventable risk factors for these diseases;

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<sup>364</sup> See resolution 70/1.

<sup>365</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

13. *Calls upon* Member States to develop actions to promote physical activity in the entire population and for all ages, through the provision of safe public environments and recreational spaces, the promotion of sports, physical education programmes in schools and urban planning which encourages active transport, and also calls upon Member States to implement the World Health Organization global action plan on physical activity 2018–2030: more active people for a healthier world;

14. *Invites* Member States to work with the World Health Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to convene, on a voluntary basis, new action networks on nutrition and to strengthen the existing ones, and to develop, strengthen and implement policies, programmes and plans to address the multiple challenges of all forms of malnutrition, including consideration of commitments that are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound commitments, within the framework of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025);

15. *Calls upon* Member States, in partnership with other relevant stakeholders, including international and regional organizations and academia, to consider scaling up research and knowledge dissemination on the correlations between health, notably its economic and social determinants, and nutrition and food systems to generate evidence and guidance on effective nutrition programmes and policies;

16. *Also calls upon* Member States to promote and preserve traditional healthy diets, food diversity and healthy eating habits and lifestyles, considering the importance of food as part of the cultural heritage and a vehicle to promote nutrition literacy;

17. *Reaffirms* the importance of the availability, access and affordability of food that is adequate both in quantity and in quality to promote proper nutrition in contexts of humanitarian emergencies, including natural disasters, in order to avoid hunger and to preserve and promote the health of affected populations;

18. *Calls upon* Member States to promote, enhance and support sustainable agriculture, including crops, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, that improves food security, eradicates hunger, helps to prevent malnutrition and is economically viable and environmentally sustainable, enhancing resilience to climate change and natural disasters, and recognizes the need to support sustainable and efficient food production systems and ensure food security;

19. *Encourages* international cooperation to facilitate trade in agricultural products to improve food security and to address problems of both food-importing and food-exporting countries;

20. *Calls upon* Member States to support and engage with initiatives that promote multisectoral approaches and multi-stakeholder partnerships, by bringing together civil society and the private sector to mobilize all their available resources, as appropriate, while giving due regard to managing conflicts of interest, through due diligence to accelerate progress and reduce all forms of malnutrition;

21. *Encourages* greater coherence and coordination among United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and entities on matters related to global health and foreign policy;

22. *Urges* Member States to enhance international cooperation and official development assistance for health, notably nutrition, to support and complement national and regional strategies, policies and programmes, and surveillance initiatives;

23. *Welcomes* the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the fight against tuberculosis, held in New York on 26 September 2018, and reaffirms its political declaration, entitled “United to end tuberculosis: an urgent global response to a global epidemic”;<sup>366</sup>

24. *Also welcomes* the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, held in New York on 27 September 2018, and reaffirms its political declaration, entitled “Time to deliver: accelerating our response to address non-communicable diseases for the health and well-being of present and future generations”;<sup>367</sup>

25. *Looks forward* to the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on universal health coverage, to be held in New York in September 2019, under the theme “Universal health coverage: moving together to build a healthier world”;

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<sup>366</sup> Resolution 73/3.

<sup>367</sup> Resolution 73/2.

26. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to promote discussion among Member States and relevant stakeholders on appropriate policy options to promote access to medicines, innovation and health technologies;

27. *Recalls* the invitation to the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly about the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025), on the basis of the biennial reports jointly compiled by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Director General of the World Health Organization as well as other relevant international organizations, to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Global health and foreign policy”, on improving international coordination and cooperation to address health needs and the challenges for the achievement of a healthier world through better nutrition.

### **RESOLUTION 73/133**

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.40/Rev.1](#), sponsored by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China)

#### **73/133. Graduation of countries from the least developed country category**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* Economic and Social Council resolution [2018/27](#) of 24 July 2018 on the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twentieth session,

*Taking into account* its resolutions [59/209](#) of 20 December 2004, [65/286](#) of 29 June 2011 and [67/221](#) of 21 December 2012 on a smooth transition for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries,

*Recalling* paragraph 10 of its resolution [67/221](#), in which it decided to take note of the decisions of the Council regarding the graduation of countries from the least developed country category, as well as the inclusion of countries in that category, at the first session of the General Assembly following the adoption of the decisions,

*Emphasizing* that graduation from the least developed country category is a major milestone for the country involved as it means that significant progress has been made towards reaching at least some of its development goals,

1. *Reaffirms* that graduating from the category of least developed countries should not result in a disruption of development plans, programmes and projects;

2. *Takes note* of the endorsement by the Economic and Social Council of the recommendation of the Committee for Development Policy that Bhutan be graduated from the least developed country category, also takes note of the fact that the Committee found reasonable the request by Bhutan to align the effective graduation date with the end of the country’s twelfth national development plan, in 2023, and decides to provide Bhutan, on an exceptional basis, with an additional preparatory period of two years before the start of the three-year preparatory period leading to graduation;

3. *Invites* Bhutan to prepare, during the five-year period between the adoption of the present resolution and its graduation from the least developed country category, its national smooth-transition strategy, with the support of the United Nations system and in cooperation with its bilateral, regional and multilateral development and trading partners;

4. *Takes note* of the endorsement by the Council of the recommendation of the Committee that Solomon Islands be graduated from the least developed country category, and decides to provide Solomon Islands, on an exceptional basis, with an additional preparatory period of three years before the start of the three-year preparatory period leading to graduation;

5. *Invites* Solomon Islands to prepare, during the six-year period between the adoption of the present resolution and its graduation from the least developed country category, its national smooth-transition strategy, with the support of the United Nations system and in cooperation with its bilateral, regional and multilateral development and trading partners;

6. *Takes note* of the endorsement by the Council of the recommendation of the Committee that Sao Tome and Principe be graduated from the least developed country category, also takes note of the fact that the Committee found reasonable the request by Sao Tome and Principe to postpone its effective graduation date to 2024 so as to enable it to enact necessary internal reforms and align its transition strategy with its national development plan, and decides to provide Sao Tome and Principe, on an exceptional basis, with an additional preparatory period of three years before the start of the three-year preparatory period leading to graduation;

7. *Invites* Sao Tome and Principe to prepare, during the six-year period between the adoption of the present resolution and its graduation from the least developed country category, its national smooth-transition strategy, with the support of the United Nations system and in cooperation with its bilateral, regional and multilateral development and trading partners.

### RESOLUTION 73/134

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.50](#) and [A/73/L.50/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechia, Djibouti, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uruguay

#### 73/134. Education for democracy

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the Charter of the United Nations, including the principles and purposes contained therein, and recognizing that human rights, the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming also* the right of everyone to education, which is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>368</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>369</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>370</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>371</sup> the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities<sup>372</sup> and other relevant instruments,

*Recalling* its resolutions [67/18](#) of 28 November 2012 and [69/268](#) of 5 March 2015 and the results of the plan of action for the second phase (2010–2014) of the World Programme for Human Rights Education,<sup>373</sup> recalling also Human Rights Council resolution [39/3](#) of 27 September 2018 on the World Programme for Human Rights Education,<sup>374</sup> and taking note with appreciation of the plan of action for the third phase (2015–2019) of the World Programme,<sup>375</sup>

*Taking note* of section VII, entitled “Supporting the global citizenship agenda through education for democracy”, of resolution 1 adopted on 20 November 2013 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-seventh session,<sup>376</sup>

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<sup>368</sup> Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

<sup>369</sup> See resolution [2200 A \(XXI\)](#), annex.

<sup>370</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>371</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>372</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>373</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/65/53/Add.1)*, chap. II, resolution 15/11.

<sup>374</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/73/53/Add.1)*, chap. III.

<sup>375</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda ([A/69/53/Add.1](#), [A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.1](#) and [A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.2](#)), chap. IV, sect. A, resolution 27/12.

<sup>376</sup> See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-seventh Session, Paris, 5–20 November 2013*, vol. 1 and corrigendum, *Resolutions*, sect. IV.



*Recalling* that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, as set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>377</sup> are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and acknowledging the importance of taking measures to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all, including expanded opportunities for all children, particularly girls, to access quality education, as well as the need to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels,

*Stressing* the complementarity and mutual reinforcement of human rights education, training and learning and education for democracy,

*Reaffirming* that democracy is a universal value based on the freely expressed will of people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,<sup>378</sup>

*Recognizing* that education for democracy nurtures responsible and active learners, capable of contributing effectively to peace and prosperity in their societies and beyond,

*Taking note* of the Incheon Declaration: Education 2030: Towards inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all, adopted at the World Education Forum 2015, held in Incheon, Republic of Korea, from 19 to 22 May 2015, which affirmed the understanding of education as a main driver of development that is essential for peace, tolerance, human fulfilment and sustainable development, as well as key to achieving full employment and poverty eradication,

*Taking note also* of the *Global Education Monitoring Reports*, which monitor progress towards the education targets within the Sustainable Development Goals framework, and affirming that education can encourage constructive and inclusive political participation,

*Recognizing* that, while democracies share common features, there is no single model of democracy and that democracy does not belong to any country or region,

*Mindful* of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference on Human Rights,<sup>379</sup> the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women,<sup>380</sup> the World Plan of Action on Education for Human Rights and Democracy adopted by the International Congress on Education for Human Rights and Democracy,<sup>381</sup> the World Programme for Human Rights Education proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution [59/113 A](#) of 10 December 2004 and the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training,<sup>382</sup>

*Recalling* the establishment of the United Nations Democracy Fund and the efforts of the Fund to advance the United Nations democracy agenda, as well as the operational activities in support of democratization processes carried out by the United Nations system, including by the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Development Programme,

*Acknowledging* the important role of international, regional and other intergovernmental organizations, civil society, academia, the private sector and other stakeholders in support of democracy and education for democracy,

*Recognizing* that education contributes to the strengthening of democracy, good governance and the rule of law at all levels, the reduction of economic inequality, the realization of human rights, gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, 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,

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<sup>377</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>378</sup> Resolution [60/1](#), para. 135.

<sup>379</sup> [A/CONF.157/24 \(Part I\)](#), chap. III.

<sup>380</sup> *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 I, annexes I and II.

<sup>381</sup> [A/CONF.157/PC/42/Add.6](#).

<sup>382</sup> Resolution [66/137](#), annex.



## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

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1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report entitled “Literacy for life: shaping future agendas and education for democracy”, submitted by the Secretary-General in cooperation with the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;<sup>383</sup>
2. *Reaffirms* the fundamental link between democratic governance, peace, development and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, which are interdependent and mutually reinforcing;
3. *Recalls* the Global Education First initiative, launched by the Secretary-General on 26 September 2012, in particular its third priority area on fostering global citizenship;
4. *Also recalls* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>377</sup> in which Member States committed themselves to the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, including to ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development, and further recalls the importance of measuring progress towards the achievement of the Goals;
5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, United Nations agencies such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Children’s Fund, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and other relevant stakeholders to strengthen their efforts to promote the values of peace, human rights, democracy, respect for religious and cultural diversity, and justice and the rule of law through education;
6. *Strongly encourages* Member States and national, regional and local education authorities, as appropriate, to integrate education for democracy, along with civic education, human rights education and education for sustainable development into their education standards and to develop and strengthen programmes, curricula and curricular and extracurricular educational activities aimed at the promotion and consolidation of democratic values and democratic governance and human rights, taking into account innovative approaches and best practices in the field, in order to facilitate the empowerment of citizens and their participation in political life and policymaking at all levels;
7. *Encourages* Member States and national, regional and local education authorities, as appropriate, to further efforts to strengthen, through education, the connections between democratic governance, peace, sustainable development and the promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
8. *Invites* United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, including the United Nations Democracy Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children’s Fund, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to provide appropriate expertise and resources for the development of relevant educational programmes and materials for democracy;
9. *Encourages* international, regional and other intergovernmental organizations, within their respective mandates, to share their best practices and experiences in the field of education for democracy, including but not limited to civic education, with each other and with the United Nations system, as appropriate;
10. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the issue of education for democracy at its seventy-fifth session, under the agenda item entitled “Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields”;
11. *Invites* Governments, the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify their efforts to promote education for democracy, requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, within existing reporting obligations, to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, and invites the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to education, within her existing mandate, to contribute to the report of the Secretary-General.

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<sup>383</sup> [A/73/292](#).

## RESOLUTION 73/135

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2018, by a recorded vote of 139 to none, with 6 abstentions,\* on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.45](#), sponsored by Bangladesh (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation)

\* *In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Armenia, El Salvador, Honduras, India, Israel, Syrian Arab Republic

### 73/135. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [37/4](#) of 22 October 1982, [38/4](#) of 28 October 1983, [39/7](#) of 8 November 1984, [40/4](#) of 25 October 1985, [41/3](#) of 16 October 1986, [42/4](#) of 15 October 1987, [43/2](#) of 17 October 1988, [44/8](#) of 18 October 1989, [45/9](#) of 25 October 1990, [46/13](#) of 28 October 1991, [47/18](#) of 23 November 1992, [48/24](#) of 24 November 1993, [49/15](#) of 15 November 1994, [50/17](#) of 20 November 1995, [51/18](#) of 14 November 1996, [52/4](#) of 22 October 1997, [53/16](#) of 29 October 1998, [54/7](#) of 25 October 1999, [55/9](#) of 30 October 2000, [56/47](#) of 7 December 2001, [57/42](#) of 21 November 2002, [59/8](#) of 22 October 2004, [61/49](#) of 4 December 2006, [63/114](#) of 5 December 2008, [65/140](#) of 16 December 2010, [67/264](#) of 17 May 2013, [69/317](#) of 10 September 2015 and [72/74](#) of 6 December 2017,

*Recalling also* its resolution 3369 (XXX) of 10 October 1975, by which it decided to invite the Organization of the Islamic Conference<sup>384</sup> to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly and of its subsidiary organs in the capacity of observer,

*Welcoming* the efforts of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, which have been undertaken in coordination with the United Nations and in full respect of the Charter of the United Nations, in strengthening its role in conflict prevention, confidence-building, peacekeeping, conflict resolution and post-conflict rehabilitation, mediation and preventive diplomacy, including conflict situations involving Muslim communities,

*Noting* the adoption by the Islamic Summit Conference at its thirteenth session, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 14 and 15 April 2016, of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation 2025 Programme of Action and the adoption on 14 March 2008 by the Islamic Summit Conference at its eleventh session, held in Dakar on 13 and 14 March 2008, of the amended Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its registration with the United Nations Secretariat,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,<sup>385</sup>

*Taking into account* the desire of the two organizations to continue to cooperate closely in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and scientific fields and in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, the promotion of a culture of peace through dialogue and cooperation, decolonization, fundamental human rights, economic and social development, and combating international terrorism,

<sup>384</sup> On 28 June 2011, the Organization of the Islamic Conference changed its name to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

<sup>385</sup> [A/73/328-S/2018/592](#).

*Recalling* the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations, and in this regard taking note of the holding, on 17 November 2016, of the Security Council briefing on the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation,<sup>386</sup> as well as the high-level meeting of the Council of 28 October 2013 on strengthening the partnership synergy between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the statement by the President of the Council adopted as an outcome of the meeting,<sup>387</sup> through which the Council, inter alia, recognized and further encouraged the active contribution of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the work of the United Nations towards the realization of the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Noting* that the Secretary-General, in his report, recognized the strengthening of practical cooperation and the building of complementarity between the United Nations, its specialized agencies, funds and programmes and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, its subsidiary organs and its specialized and affiliated institutions,

*Noting also* the encouraging progress made in the 10 priority areas of cooperation between the two organizations and their respective agencies and institutions, as well as in the identification of other areas of cooperation between them,

*Noting further* that the Secretaries-General of the two organizations have met regularly and that consultations among senior officials of the two organizations have enhanced cooperation,

*Convinced* that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and its subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions and standing committees contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Taking note* of the results of the general meeting of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions, held in Rabat from 3 to 5 July 2018, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/74, to review and appraise the level of cooperation in the fields of international peace and security, science and technology, trade and development, implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>388</sup> protection of and assistance to refugees, human rights, human resource development, food security and agriculture, environment, health and population, arts and crafts, and the promotion of heritage, and of the fact that these meetings are now being held every two years, with the next meeting scheduled for 2020, to be hosted by the United Nations,

*Acknowledging* the intention expressed by the representatives of the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to reinforce cooperation and understanding in areas of common interest, noting the commitment of both organizations to fostering a global dialogue for the promotion of tolerance and peace, calling for enhanced cooperation to promote better understanding across countries, religions, cultures and civilizations, and in this regard using, inter alia, the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations as a useful tool in advancing that agenda in international forums, and welcoming the promotion of the effective implementation of Human Rights Council resolution 16/18 of 24 March 2011<sup>389</sup> to counter global violence, religious discrimination and intolerance, and in this regard, in particular, the Istanbul Process for Combating Intolerance, Discrimination and Incitement to Hatred and/or Violence on the Basis of Religion or Belief,

*Taking into account* the strengthened spirit of cooperation reflected in the agreement on a matrix of activities within the framework of United Nations-Organization of Islamic Cooperation collaboration, to be implemented over the next biennium,

*Recalling* that the Organization of Islamic Cooperation remains an important partner of the United Nations in peace, security and the fostering of a culture of peace at the global level, and noting various decisions reached by the two sides, including the agreement to continue cooperation in conflict prevention and resolution, mediation,

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<sup>386</sup> See [S/PV.7813](#).

<sup>387</sup> [S/PRST/2013/16](#); see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013–31 July 2014 (S/INF/69)*.

<sup>388</sup> See resolution 70/1.

<sup>389</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/66/53)*, chap. II, sect. A.

peacekeeping and peacebuilding, promotion of good governance at the national and international levels, combating international terrorism, preventing violent extremism, countering religious intolerance, including Islamophobia, promoting and protecting all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, humanitarian assistance and capacity-building in electoral assistance, and the agreement to improve the follow-up mechanism,

*Noting* the growing cooperation between the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe on mediation,

*Noting also* the commitment of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to building its capacity in the field of conflict prevention and resolution, mediation and preventive diplomacy through conferences, training sessions and workshops delivered by experts and organizations specializing in that field and the organization of “Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections” training courses and round-table discussions on election monitoring at the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in February 2014,

*Noting further* the adoption by the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, at its forty-fifth session, of the resolution on strengthening the mediation capacity of the Organization and the holding of the first and second Conferences of Organization of Islamic Cooperation Member States on Mediation on 21 November 2017 and 29 November 2018,

*Noting* the contribution of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in promoting intercultural dialogue and understanding within the framework of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and other initiatives in this regard,

*Welcoming* the initiatives for interfaith dialogue undertaken by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the United Nations, as well as their member States, including the activities of the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue in Vienna, and emphasizing the importance of engaging relevant United Nations agencies in promoting interfaith dialogue and other related activities, as well as General Assembly resolutions [68/127](#) of 18 December 2013, [70/109](#) of 10 December 2015 and [72/241](#) of 20 December 2017 on a world against violence and violent extremism,

*Taking note* of the cooperation between the Independent Permanent Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and relevant United Nations bodies, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and recognizing the need for further enhancing this cooperation,

*Noting* the adoption by the sixth Ministerial Conference on the Role of Women in the Development of Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, held in Istanbul from 1 to 3 November 2016, of its revised Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women and its implementation mechanism, and the establishment of the Advisory Women Council, as well as activities of the Department of Family Affairs of the General Secretariat of the Organization to deal specifically with issues concerning women and children, and underscoring the cooperation between the Department and relevant United Nations agencies, including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women),

*Welcoming* the decision of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, at its forty-fifth session, to establish the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Women’s Achievement Award so as to encourage and promote the advancement and empowerment of women,

*Noting with appreciation* the close and multifaceted cooperation between the specialized agencies of the United Nations and the specialized and affiliated institutions of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation with a view to strengthening the capacities of the two organizations to address challenges to development and social progress, including ongoing cooperation between the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the World Health Organization, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children’s Fund on health issues, as well as discussions between the United Nations Children’s Fund and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation on formalizing their partnership through specific initiatives linked to the Sustainable Development Goals, as part of the relevant sections of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation 2025 Programme of Action,

*Welcoming* the existing cooperation between the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, including dialogue between the two entities on reaching out to non-governmental organizations and other humanitarian actors in States members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, as well as participation in joint activities and events and information-sharing, with a view to furthering proactive engagement and implementing concrete programmes in the areas of capacity-building, emergency assistance and strategic partnerships,

## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

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*Welcoming also* the decision taken by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation at the general meeting of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions, held in Istanbul from 20 to 22 May 2014, to co-organize an event under the auspices of the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue on the theme “Countering violent extremism: elements of an effective strategy”,

*Noting* the organization of the brainstorming session to review opportunities for collaboration between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation on the political and security situation in the Middle East, at the General Secretariat of the Organization in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on 10 and 11 May 2017, and the agreement to organize a similar session on African issues later,

*Noting also* the request of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation for greater interaction between the secretariats of the United Nations and the Organization extending beyond the current biennial arrangement so as to include periodic reviews of cooperation, in the light of the expanding areas of cooperation between the two organizations,

*Noting with appreciation* the determination of the two organizations to further strengthen the existing cooperation by developing specific proposals in the designated priority areas of cooperation, as well as in the political field,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>385</sup>
2. *Urges* the United Nations system to cooperate with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in areas of mutual interest, as appropriate;
3. *Notes with satisfaction* the active participation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the work of the United Nations towards the realization of the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations;
4. *Affirms* that the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation share a common goal of promoting and facilitating the Middle East peace process so that the process can reach its objective of establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East and also share a common objective of fostering peaceful and political solutions to other conflicts in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant resolutions of the Security Council;
5. *Requests* the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to continue to cooperate in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, promotion of a culture of peace through dialogue and cooperation, decolonization, human rights and fundamental freedoms, countering international terrorism, including violent extremism, addressing conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, capacity-building, health-related issues such as combating pandemic and endemic diseases, protection of the environment, climate change, emergency relief and rehabilitation and technical cooperation;
6. *Welcomes* the strong commitment of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the fight against violent extremism and terrorist groups such as Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, Al-Nusrah Front and all other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida, affirms the important role of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in responding, in coordination with the United Nations, to the threat posed by violent extremism, in particular with regard to countering violent extremism and developing counter-narratives, and welcomes the establishment of Sawt Al-Hikma (the Voice of Wisdom) and the Centre for Dialogue, Peace and Understanding within the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to delegitimize and deconstruct the extremist narratives and dismantle their contexts, especially through social media;
7. *Also welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation towards combating intolerance and stigmatization of persons based on their religion or belief, recognizes the strong need for global awareness about religious intolerance, condemns any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, and welcomes cooperation towards addressing the issue with all urgency, including through the Istanbul Process for Combating Intolerance, Discrimination and Incitement to Hatred and/or Violence on the Basis of Religion or Belief;

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8. *Invites* increased cooperation and exchanges between the Independent Permanent Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

9. *Requests* the secretariats of the two organizations to strengthen cooperation in addressing the social and economic issues that affect the efforts of Member States to eradicate poverty, achieve sustainable development and realize the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals;<sup>388</sup>

10. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to continue to strengthen cooperation between the two organizations in areas of common concern and to review and explore innovative ways and means of enhancing the mechanisms of such cooperation through the recent establishment of a working group;

11. *Affirms* that, to enhance cooperation and for the purpose of the review and appraisal of progress, a general meeting between representatives of the United Nations system and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation should continue to be held once every two years and to include joint inter-agency sectoral or thematic meetings;

12. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the Office of Counter-Terrorism and the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the field of counter-terrorism, and notes the signing of a memorandum of understanding on 25 September 2018;

13. *Also welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the area of gender equality and women's empowerment, in particular the signing of a memorandum of understanding on 22 September 2017;

14. *Further welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation and the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, in particular the signing of a memorandum of cooperation on 24 January 2016, which provides, inter alia, for the elaboration of a strategic plan for joint programmes, activities and projects;

15. *Encourages* the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and their subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions and standing committees to intensify actions in creating bilateral frameworks for cooperation in the area of human and industrial capacity development, trade promotion, transportation and tourism;

16. *Invites* the United Nations system to cooperate with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, including the Islamic Development Bank, and its member States in their efforts to implement the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

17. *Welcomes with appreciation* the continuing cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the fields of peacemaking, preventive diplomacy, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, and notes the close cooperation between the two organizations in reconstruction and development in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Central African Republic, Mali, Sierra Leone and Somalia;

18. *Welcomes* the efforts of the secretariats of the two organizations to strengthen information exchange, coordination and cooperation between them in areas of mutual interest in the political field and to develop practical modalities for such cooperation;

19. *Notes with satisfaction* the increasing cooperation between the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which was marked by the opening of the representation office of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in Paris, and calls upon the two organizations to expand their cooperation in the protection of cultural and historic heritage;

20. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and its subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions and standing committees to serve the mutual interests of the two organizations in the political, economic, social, cultural, humanitarian and scientific fields;

21. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Secretary-General to reinforcing cooperation in areas of common interest between the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the United Nations, also welcomes the periodic high-



level meetings between the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, as well as between senior secretariat officials of the two organizations, and encourages their participation in important meetings of the two organizations;

22. *Encourages* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to expand their cooperation with the subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, particularly in the fields of science and technology, higher education, health and environment, by negotiating cooperation agreements and through necessary contacts and meetings of the respective focal points for cooperation in priority areas of interest to the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

23. *Invites* the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system, especially the lead agencies, to consider providing increased technical and other forms of assistance to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and its subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions and standing committees in order to strengthen their capacities for cooperation;

24. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to increase awareness, as appropriate, of the work and activities of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, in accordance with established practice between the United Nations and other regional organizations;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session on the state of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

26. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations”, the sub-item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation”.

### **RESOLUTION 73/136**

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.18/Rev.1](#) and [A/73/L.18/Rev.1/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

#### **73/136. International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its resolution [46/182](#) of 19 December 1991, the annex to which contains the guiding principles for the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system, as well as all its resolutions on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development, and recalling the resolutions of the humanitarian segments of the substantive sessions of the Economic and Social Council,

*Reaffirming also* the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

*Recalling* the Sendai Declaration<sup>390</sup> and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>391</sup> adopted by the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015,

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<sup>390</sup> Resolution [69/283](#), annex I.

<sup>391</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

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*Recognizing* that the Sendai Framework applies to the risk of small-scale and large-scale, frequent and infrequent, sudden and slow-onset disasters caused by natural or man-made hazards, as well as related environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks,

*Noting with concern* that slow-onset disasters such as droughts are on the rise in many places and can have significant impacts on affected populations and lead to increased vulnerability to other hazards,

*Recognizing* the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction as the main forum at the global level for strategic advice coordination and partnership development for disaster risk reduction, and recognizing also the contribution of the relevant regional and subregional platforms,

*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement,<sup>392</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>393</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Looking forward* to the Secretary-General's climate summit, to be held in New York in 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change,

*Highlighting* the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>394</sup> and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the scientific findings contained in the *Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

*Noting with appreciation* the hosting by the Government of Morocco of the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the first part of the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 7 to 18 November 2016, and noting with appreciation also the convening by the Government of Fiji, with the technical assistance of the Government of Germany, of the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties, the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the second part of the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, held in Bonn, Germany, from 6 to 17 November 2017,

*Noting with appreciation also* the hosting by the Government of Mexico of the fifth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Cancun, Mexico, from 22 to 26 May 2017, and looking forward to the upcoming sixth session of the Global Platform, to be hosted by Switzerland in Geneva in 2019, and taking note of the second Central Asia and South Caucasus Subregional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, hosted by the Government of Armenia, on 26 and 27 June 2018,

*Taking note* of its resolution 71/1 of 19 September 2016, in which the General Assembly adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants and the annexes thereto,

*Emphasizing* the fundamentally civilian character of humanitarian assistance, reaffirming, in situations in which military capacity and assets are used as a last resort to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, the need for their use to be undertaken with the consent of the affected State and in conformity with international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as humanitarian principles, and emphasizing also in this regard the need for Member States to coordinate with all relevant actors early on in a disaster response so as to ensure the predictable, coherent and needs-based deployment of military assets and personnel supporting humanitarian assistance,

*Emphasizing also* that the affected State has the primary responsibility in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory and in the facilitation of the work of humanitarian organizations in mitigating the consequences of natural disasters,

*Emphasizing further* the primary responsibility of each State to undertake disaster risk reduction, including preparedness, and disaster risk management, including through the voluntary implementation of and follow-up to the

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<sup>392</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>393</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>394</sup> Resolution 70/1.

Sendai Framework, as well as response and early recovery efforts, in order to minimize the impact of disasters, while recognizing the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of affected countries which may have limited capacities in this regard,

*Noting* the convening of the International Conference on the Implementation of the Health Aspects of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, in Bangkok on 10 and 11 March 2016, which adopted the Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework as a contribution to the Sendai Framework to build resilient health systems,

*Recognizing* the primary role of Member States in preparing for and responding to outbreaks of infectious disease, including those that become humanitarian crises, in compliance with the International Health Regulations (2005) adopted by the World Health Assembly,<sup>395</sup> highlighting the critical role played by Member States, the World Health Organization as the directing and coordinating authority on international health work, the United Nations humanitarian system, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other humanitarian actors in providing financial, technical and in-kind support in order to bring epidemics or pandemics under control, and recognizing also the need to strengthen local and national health systems, early reporting and early warning systems, preparedness, cross-sectoral response capacities, and resilience linked to outbreaks of infectious disease, including through capacity-building for developing countries,

*Expressing its deep concern* at the increasing challenges to Member States and to the United Nations humanitarian response capacity to deal with the consequences of natural disasters, given the effects of global challenges, including the impact of climate change, the adverse impacts of the global financial and economic crisis and volatile food prices on food security and nutrition, and other key factors that exacerbate the vulnerability of populations and exposure to natural hazards and the impact of natural disasters,

*Expressing its deep concern also* that rural and urban poor communities in the developing world are the hardest hit by the effects of increased disaster risk,

*Noting with concern* that women, persons with disabilities, older persons, children and youth are disproportionately affected in natural disasters,

*Acknowledging* the impacts of rapid urbanization in the context of natural disasters and the adverse effects of climate change and that urban disaster preparedness and responses require appropriate disaster risk reduction strategies, including in urban planning, early action, rapid response and early recovery strategies implemented from the initial stage of relief operations, as well as mitigation, rehabilitation and sustainable development strategies, giving special attention to the needs and capacities of persons in vulnerable situations, and that action by humanitarian and development actors in urban areas needs to recognize the complexity of cities and build urban resilience, with improved urban expertise and capacities within organizations, while building on the capabilities, opportunities and potential new partnerships present in cities and other human settlements,

*Reaffirming* the adoption of the outcome document entitled “New Urban Agenda” at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,<sup>396</sup> and in this regard noting the commitments therein undertaken by Member States regarding affected populations in urban areas, and noting also the importance of implementing policies to ensure more effective disaster risk reduction, including preparedness, and disaster risk management,

*Recognizing* that local communities are the first responders in most disasters, underlining the critical role played by in-country capacities in disaster risk reduction, including preparedness, and capacity-building for community resilience, as well as response and recovery, and acknowledging the need to support the efforts of Member States to develop and enhance national and local capacities which are fundamental to improving the overall delivery of humanitarian assistance,

*Stressing* the need for all relevant actors involved in international responses to natural disasters to ensure that such responses are tailored to context, make use of appropriate tools and support local systems, including by building on local expertise and capacities,

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<sup>395</sup> World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1, resolution 58.3, annex.

<sup>396</sup> Resolution [71/256](#), annex.

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*Recognizing* the adverse effects of climate change as contributors to environmental degradation and extreme weather events, which may, in certain instances, among other factors, contribute to disaster-induced human mobility,

*Recognizing also* the high numbers of persons affected by natural disasters, including in this respect displaced persons,

*Reaffirming* the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of the affected States in dealing with natural disasters in all their phases, in particular in preparedness, response and the early recovery phase, and of strengthening the response capacity of countries affected by disaster,

*Recognizing* the importance of sharing and making use of effective practices as part of transboundary cooperation in preparation for cross-border disaster situations, such as simulation exercises or preparedness or evacuation drills,

*Recognizing also* that scientific advancements can contribute to the effective forecasting of extreme weather events, which allows for a more accurate prediction and early warning of such events, leading to early action,

*Recognizing further* the progress made by the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) in its mission,

*Noting* the progress made by and the role of the Global Framework for Climate Services in developing and providing science-based climate information and prediction for climate risk management and for adaptation to climate variability and change, and looking forward to continued progress in this regard, including to address identified gaps in coordinating and enabling partnerships,

*Welcoming* the important role played by Member States, including developing countries, that have granted necessary and continued generous assistance to countries and peoples stricken by natural disasters,

*Recognizing* the significant role played by national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, as part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in disaster preparedness and risk reduction, disaster response, rehabilitation and development,

*Recognizing also* the significant achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund in facilitating life-saving assistance to crisis-affected people by providing timely funding, enabling humanitarian organizations and their implementing partners to act quickly when tragedy strikes and steer resources to crises that do not receive the attention that they need and deserve, emphasizing the need to broaden and diversify the income base of the Fund, and welcoming in this regard the call by the Secretary-General to achieve an annual funding level of 1 billion United States dollars,

*Emphasizing* the need to address vulnerability and to integrate disaster risk reduction, including prevention, mitigation and preparedness, into all phases of natural disaster management, post-natural disaster recovery and development planning through close collaboration of all relevant actors and sectors,

*Reaffirming* that strengthening resilience contributes to withstanding, adapting to and quickly recovering from disasters,

*Reaffirming also* the importance of considering increasing investment in building the resilience of communities, which can be the first line of response,

*Recognizing* the changing scope, scale and complexity of humanitarian crises, including natural disasters, and their adverse impact on efforts to achieve economic growth, sustainable development and internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>394</sup> and noting the positive contribution that these efforts can make in strengthening the resilience and preparedness of populations to such disasters and reducing displacement risk in the context of disasters,

*Recognizing also* the clear relationship between emergency response, rehabilitation and development, and reaffirming that, in order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development, emergency assistance must be provided in ways that will be supportive of short-term and medium-term recovery, leading to long-term development, and that certain emergency measures should be seen as a step towards sustainable development,

*Emphasizing*, in this context, the important role of development organizations, international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders in supporting national efforts to prepare for and mitigate the consequences of natural disasters,

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1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>397</sup>
2. *Expresses its deep concern* at the increasing impact of natural disasters, resulting in massive losses of life and property worldwide and, in some instances, displacement, in particular in vulnerable societies lacking adequate capacity to mitigate effectively the long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences of natural disasters;
3. *Reaffirms* the importance of implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>391</sup> to ensure the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries, and underlines the importance of tackling the underlying disaster risk drivers and of integrating a disaster risk reduction perspective into humanitarian assistance and development assistance programmes, as appropriate, to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk;
4. *Encourages* the United Nations to continue to increase its support for Member States in their prioritized implementation of the Sendai Framework, including through the revised United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience: Towards a Risk-informed and Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development, in line with the Sendai Framework, to ensure that the implementation of the Sendai Framework most effectively contributes to a risk-informed and integrated approach to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>394</sup> in particular through building resilience against disasters, reducing displacement risk in the context of disasters and supporting national and local preparedness and response capacities;
5. *Emphasizes* the need to promote and strengthen disaster risk reduction and preparedness activities at all levels, in particular in hazard-prone areas, and encourages Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian and development actors to continue to increase funding and cooperation for disaster risk reduction activities, including the strengthening of preparedness and mitigation, as well as for responding to disasters;
6. *Encourages* Member States, in line with the call in the Sendai Framework, to promote disaster risk reduction, including prevention, mitigation and preparedness, response and recovery with a view to ensuring a rapid and effective response to disasters and to promoting international cooperation to build resilience and reduce disaster risk;
7. *Also encourages* Member States to provide dedicated financial contributions to disaster risk reduction, including prevention, mitigation and preparedness, as well as early action, rapid response and recovery efforts, in a harmonized, flexible and complementary approach that fully utilizes and helps to coordinate humanitarian and development funding options and potential;
8. *Calls upon* all States to adopt, where required, and to continue to implement effectively, necessary legislative and other appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of natural disasters and integrate disaster risk reduction strategies into development planning, as well as to incorporate a gender perspective into policies, planning and funding, and in this regard requests the international community to continue to assist developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, as appropriate;
9. *Acknowledges* that climate change, among other factors, contributes to environmental degradation and to the increase in the intensity and frequency of climate and extreme weather events, both of which amplify disaster risk and contribute to displacement risk in the context of disasters, and in this regard encourages Member States, as well as relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, in accordance with their specific mandates, to support adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change, to strengthen disaster risk reduction and to substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems in order to minimize the humanitarian consequences of natural disasters, including through the provision of technology and support for capacity-building in developing countries;
10. *Urges* the United Nations, relevant humanitarian and development organizations, international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders to strengthen the capacity and resilience of Member States, including through capacity-building for community resilience, the application of new science and technology and investments in the context of disasters and climate change;

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<sup>397</sup> [A/73/343](#).

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11. *Encourages* Member States to address the humanitarian and development needs arising from natural disaster-induced displacement, including through national policies and resilience-building, and in this regard encourages Member States, supported by the United Nations, to develop national laws and policies on internal displacement, as appropriate, which address such displacement, detail responsibilities and measures to minimize the impact of disasters, protect and assist internally displaced persons following disasters and identify, promote and support safe, dignified and durable solutions, and in this respect encourages Member States to adopt standards, as appropriate, in line with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,<sup>398</sup> the Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee<sup>399</sup> and the basic principles and guidelines on development-based evictions and displacement;<sup>400</sup>

12. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to integrate the building of resilience and human mobility into relevant strategies, plans and legal frameworks, in particular regarding disaster risk management and climate change adaptation, as integral elements of sustainable development at the national and regional levels so as to help to prevent and mitigate displacement in the context of disasters and the adverse effects of climate change, including in urban settings where displaced persons have particular needs, requirements and vulnerabilities, and to enhance cooperation and coordination, where appropriate, to comprehensively and coherently respond to such displacement including by preventing, preparing for and addressing it;

13. *Recognizes* the increase in the number and scale of natural disasters, including those related to the adverse effects of climate change, which in certain instances may contribute to displacement and to additional pressure on host communities, encourages Member States, the United Nations and relevant organizations and actors to further strengthen the efforts aimed at addressing the needs of persons displaced in the context of disasters, including those induced by climate change, and notes in this regard the importance of sharing best practices on prevention of and preparation for such displacements, and on the collection of data on such displacement and on durable solutions;

14. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations, relevant humanitarian and development organizations and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to enhance understanding, analysis, monitoring and assessment of the drivers, scale, dynamics, effects, patterns and duration of displacement in the context of slow-onset disasters, gradual environmental degradation and climate change, to strengthen the systematic, impartial and timely collection and sharing of data disaggregated by sex, age and disability and to strengthen evidence-based policy and operational responses at all levels in this regard, including to address the root causes of such displacement and strengthen the resilience of displaced persons and their host communities;

15. *Encourages* Member States to consider regional and cross-border perspectives in the development of disaster risk reduction strategies;

16. *Also encourages* Member States to strengthen operational and legal frameworks for international disaster relief and initial recovery, to adopt and implement national laws and regulations, as appropriate, to reduce the impact of the underlying drivers of disaster risk and vulnerability, and to adopt comprehensive rules and procedures for the facilitation and regulation of international disaster assistance, drawing, as appropriate, from the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance, and calls upon the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, relevant United Nations organizations and other partners for technical support in achieving these aims;

17. *Welcomes* the effective cooperation among the affected States, relevant bodies of the United Nations system, donor countries, regional and international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders, such as the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, municipalities, civil society and the private sector, in the coordination and delivery of emergency relief, and stresses the need to continue such cooperation and delivery throughout relief operations and medium- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, in a manner that reduces vulnerability to future natural hazards;

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<sup>398</sup> E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

<sup>399</sup> A/HRC/13/21/Add.4.

<sup>400</sup> A/HRC/4/18, annex I.



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18. *Reiterates* the commitment to support, as a matter of priority, the efforts of countries, in particular developing countries, to strengthen their capacities at all levels in order to assess and reduce risks, prepare for and respond rapidly to natural disasters and mitigate their impact;

19. *Also reiterates* the need to build the capacities of governments to manage and respond to disaster and climate risks, including by providing support for and strengthening national and, as appropriate, local preparedness and response capacities, and to build resilience, taking into account the differing needs of women, girls, boys and men of all ages, including persons with disabilities;

20. *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, in order to reduce the impacts and costs of natural disasters;

21. *Urges* Member States to develop, update and strengthen early warning systems, disaster preparedness and risk reduction measures at all levels, in accordance with the Sendai Framework, taking into account their own circumstances and capacities and in coordination with relevant actors, as appropriate, and to improve their response to early warning information in order to ensure that early warning leads to early action, implemented effectively in a timely manner, including through scaled-up, predictable and multi-year support, such as forecast-based financing and other anticipatory risk financing instruments, and encourages all stakeholders to support the efforts of Member States in this regard;

22. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to continue to support early warning and early action efforts, including through forecast-based financing at the global, regional and national levels, including for multi-hazard early warning systems, climate services, exposure and vulnerability mapping, new technologies and communication protocols, so that persons in vulnerable situations who are exposed to natural hazards, including in geographically remote locations, receive timely, reliable, accurate and actionable early warning information, and encourages the international community to further support national efforts in this regard;

23. *Encourages* the United Nations, humanitarian and development organizations, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders to support, as appropriate, the efforts of Member States to address the underlying vulnerability and root causes of disaster risk and to work towards ensuring financing support that is coherent, layered and sequenced;

24. *Encourages* Member States to develop or enhance forecast-based preparedness and early action and rapid response systems, including through the establishment and networking of risk management centres, as well as the coordination of existing networks, ensure that comprehensive procedures are in place and make resources available for actions in anticipation of natural disasters, and invites relevant bodies of the United Nations system and other stakeholders to engage in these efforts;

25. *Also encourages* Member States to consider elaborating and presenting to the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction secretariat their national platforms for disaster risk reduction in accordance with the Sendai Framework, and encourages States to cooperate with each other to reach this objective;

26. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, to provide in a coordinated manner, support for national and regional efforts by providing, in the context of natural disasters, the assistance necessary to increase food production and access to healthy and nutritious food and its utilization, while fully respecting the humanitarian principles for humanitarian action;

27. *Recognizes* the importance of applying a multi-hazard approach to preparedness, and encourages Member States, taking into account their specific circumstances, and the United Nations system to continue to apply the approach to their preparedness activities, including by giving due regard to, inter alia, secondary environmental hazards stemming from industrial and technological accidents;

28. *Stresses* that, to increase further the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance, particular international cooperation efforts should be undertaken to enhance and broaden further the utilization of national and local capacities and, where appropriate, of regional and subregional capacities for disaster preparedness and response, which may be made available in closer proximity to the site of a disaster, and more efficiently and at lower cost;

29. *Acknowledges* that the recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction phase, which needs to be prepared ahead of a disaster, is a critical opportunity to “build back better”;

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30. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and other relevant stakeholders to continue to support the localization of disaster preparedness and response and work to ensure that national and local actors are enabled to respond to community-level needs and priorities, and strengthen collaboration between international, national, local and regional actors with a view to reinforcing national and local capacities, leadership and coordination mechanisms;

31. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations to continue to implement community engagement approaches through which communities receive timely information and which can improve the targeting of humanitarian assistance;

32. *Encourages* Member States and regional organizations to work together to strengthen regional cooperation to improve national and regional capacity to understand and reduce risks and prepare for and respond to disasters in support of national efforts, including by exchanging experiences and best practices;

33. *Encourages* Member States to move from reactive to more anticipatory risk-based, multi-hazard and inclusive approaches, such as the promotion of ex ante investments to prevent disaster risks and build resilience, the promotion of environmental and spatial measures and the integration of lessons from past disasters, as well as awareness of new risks, into future planning;

34. *Encourages* innovative practices that draw on the knowledge of people affected by natural disasters to develop locally sustainable solutions and to produce lifesaving items locally, with minimal logistical and infrastructure implications;

35. *Stresses*, in this context, the importance of strengthening international cooperation, particularly through the effective use of multilateral mechanisms, in the timely provision of humanitarian assistance through all phases of a disaster, from relief and recovery to development, including the provision of adequate resources;

36. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders, including Member States, to take appropriate measures to reduce and discourage the sending of unsolicited, unneeded or inappropriate relief goods in response to disasters;

37. *Encourages* all Member States to facilitate, to the extent possible, the transit of emergency humanitarian assistance and development assistance and the entry of humanitarian personnel and supplies, provided in the context of international efforts, including in the phase from relief to development, in full accordance with the provisions of resolution 46/182 and the annex thereto, and in full respect of the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence, and their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law;

38. *Encourages* Member States to put in place, as appropriate, customs measures to improve effectiveness in responding to natural disasters;

39. *Reaffirms* the leading role of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat as the focal point within the overall United Nations system for the advocacy for and coordination of humanitarian assistance among United Nations humanitarian organizations and other humanitarian partners;

40. *Welcomes* the important contribution of the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination system to the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance in supporting Member States, upon their request, and the United Nations system in preparedness and humanitarian response, and encourages the continued incorporation into this mechanism of experts from developing countries that are prone to natural disasters;

41. *Also welcomes* the important contribution of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group to the effectiveness of international urban search and rescue assistance, and encourages Member States to continue to support the Advisory Group, in line with General Assembly resolution 57/150 of 16 December 2002;

42. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations system and other humanitarian actors to consider the specific and differentiated consequences of natural disasters in both rural and urban areas when designing and implementing disaster risk reduction, prevention and mitigation, preparedness, humanitarian assistance and early recovery strategies, giving special emphasis to addressing the needs of those living in rural and urban poor areas prone to natural disasters;

43. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, and other relevant stakeholders to continue to take concrete action for the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda,<sup>396</sup> in order to strengthen resilience to disasters and the adverse effects of climate change, and ensure that sustainable development in urban settings is informed by disaster risk, giving special attention to the needs and capacities of persons in vulnerable situations;

44. *Welcomes* the continued efforts of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to build partnerships with regional organizations, traditional and non-traditional donors and the private sector, and encourages Member States and the United Nations system to continue to strengthen partnerships at the global, regional, national and local levels in support of national efforts in situations of natural disasters, in order to cooperate effectively in providing humanitarian assistance to those in need and ensure that their collaborative efforts adhere to the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence;

45. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to increase efforts to engage the private sector, including small and medium-sized enterprises, as appropriate, through strategic partnerships in disaster risk reduction activities;

46. *Recognizes* that information and telecommunications technology can play an important role in disaster response, encourages Member States to develop emergency response telecommunications capacities that are accessible to all, including persons with disabilities, encourages the international community to assist the efforts of developing countries in this area, where needed, including in the recovery phase, and in this regard encourages Member States that have not acceded to or ratified the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations<sup>401</sup> to consider doing so;

47. *Encourages* the further use of space-based and ground-based remote-sensing technologies, including as provided by the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER), as well as the sharing of geographical data, for the forecasting, prevention, mitigation and management of natural disasters, where appropriate, and invites Member States to continue to provide their support to the consolidation of the United Nations capability in the area of satellite-derived geographical information for early warning, preparedness, response and early recovery;

48. *Encourages* Member States to provide all support necessary, on a voluntary basis, to UN-SPIDER, including financial support, to enable it to carry out its workplan for 2018–2019, and reiterates the importance of enhancing international coordination and cooperation at the global level in disaster management and emergency response through greater access to and use of space-based services for all countries and by facilitating capacity-building and institutional strengthening for disaster management, in particular in developing countries;

49. *Recognizes* the opportunities for new technologies, when utilized in a coordinated fashion and based on humanitarian principles, potentially to improve the effectiveness and accountability of humanitarian response, and encourages Member States, the United Nations and its humanitarian partners to consider engaging, inter alia, with the volunteer and technical communities, as appropriate, in order to make use of the variety of data and information available during emergencies and disaster risk reduction efforts to strengthen the evidence-based shared understanding of disaster risk and impacts and to work to improve efficiencies in this regard;

50. *Encourages* the United Nations to continue to strengthen its provision of data-related services and policy advice and build the data skills of its humanitarian staff, in order to improve the effectiveness of disaster preparedness and response;

51. *Encourages* Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and international financial institutions to enhance the global capacity for sustainable post-disaster recovery in areas such as coordination with traditional and non-traditional partners, identification and dissemination of lessons learned, development of common tools and mechanisms for recovery needs assessment, strategy development and programming, and incorporation of disaster risk reduction into all recovery processes, and welcomes the ongoing efforts to this end;

52. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations system to support national initiatives that address the differentiated impacts of natural disasters on the affected population, including through the collection and analysis of data disaggregated, inter alia, by sex, age and disability, using, inter alia, the existing information provided by States, and through the development of tools, methods and procedures that will result in more timely and useful initial needs assessments that lead to targeted and more effective assistance, and taking into account the environmental impact;

53. *Calls upon* United Nations humanitarian organizations, in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen the evidence base for effective humanitarian assistance by further developing common

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<sup>401</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2296, No. 40906.

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mechanisms to improve the quality, transparency and reliability of, and make further progress towards, common humanitarian needs assessments, to assess their performance in assistance and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by these organizations;

54. *Encourages* Member States to take steps to develop or to improve data collection and analysis and to facilitate the exchange of relevant non-sensitive information with humanitarian and development organizations of the United Nations, including through shared platforms and a common approach, in order to inform policy and measures designed to address disaster risks and their consequences, to support preparedness efforts, including forecast-based action and financing and disaster risk financing, and to improve the effectiveness and accountability of a needs-based humanitarian response, and encourages the United Nations system, as appropriate, and other relevant actors to continue to assist developing countries in their efforts to build local and national capacities for data collection and analysis;

55. *Also encourages* Member States, with support from the United Nations upon request, to establish and strengthen national disaster loss databases, risk profiles and available capacities and to continue to collect, share and use such data to inform relevant policies and strategies;

56. *Encourages* Member States, regional organizations, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to continue to improve the identification, mapping and analysis of risks and vulnerabilities, including the local impact of future disaster risk drivers, and the development and implementation of appropriate strategies and programmes to address them, and in this regard encourages all the relevant stakeholders to support Governments in capacity development, including at the regional and local levels, through the sharing of expertise and tools and the provision of necessary resources, as appropriate, to ensure that effective disaster management plans and capacities are in place in accordance with national priorities for disaster risk management;

57. *Stresses* the importance of the full and equal participation of women in decision-making and of gender mainstreaming in developing and implementing disaster risk reduction, preparedness, early action, rapid response and recovery strategies, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that gender mainstreaming is better taken into account in all aspects of humanitarian responses and activities, including the analysis of allocations and programme implementation, and through greater use of the Gender with Age Marker;

58. *Encourages* Member States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations humanitarian organizations, to promote women's leadership, empowerment and full and effective participation in the planning and implementation of natural disaster response strategies, including through strengthening partnerships with, and building the capacities of, national and local institutions, including national and local women's organizations and civil society actors, as appropriate;

59. *Encourages* Governments, local authorities, the United Nations system and regional organizations, and invites donors and other assisting countries, to address the vulnerabilities and capacities of women and girls through gender-responsive programming, including with regard to sexual and reproductive health needs and means to address sexual and gender-based violence and various forms of exploitation during emergencies and in post-disaster environments, and the allocation of resources in their disaster risk reduction, response and recovery efforts in coordination with the Governments of affected countries;

60. *Emphasizes* the importance of mainstreaming the perspective of persons with disabilities in disaster risk reduction, and recognizes the importance of non-discrimination and their inclusive and active participation in and contribution to disaster risk reduction, preparedness, emergency response, recovery and transition from relief to development, as well as the implementation of systematic approaches, policies and programmes that are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities, recognizing that persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected in humanitarian emergencies and face multiple obstacles in accessing humanitarian assistance, and recalls the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action;

61. *Encourages* efforts to provide safe and enabling learning environments and access to quality education for all, especially for girls and boys, in humanitarian emergencies caused by natural disasters, including in order to contribute to a smooth transition from relief to development;

62. *Encourages* Member States and relevant regional and international organizations to identify and improve the dissemination of best practices for improving disaster preparedness, response and early recovery and to scale up successful local initiatives, as appropriate;

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63. *Requests* the United Nations humanitarian and development organizations to improve their coordination of disaster recovery efforts, from relief to development, inter alia, by strengthening institutional, coordination and strategic planning efforts in disaster preparedness, resilience-building and recovery, in support of national authorities, and by ensuring that development actors participate in strategic planning at an early stage;

64. *Encourages* the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to support national, subnational and local governments and communities in their responsibility to develop long-term strategies, forecast-based financing and preparedness systems and multi-year operational plans for preparedness that are embedded within disaster risk reduction and resilience strategies in line with the Sendai Framework;

65. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and other humanitarian actors to improve the dissemination of tools and services to support enhanced disaster risk reduction, in particular preparedness, early action, rapid response and early recovery;

66. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations humanitarian and development organizations, in consultation with Member States, to strengthen tools and mechanisms to ensure that early recovery needs and support are integrated into the planning and implementation of disaster preparedness, humanitarian response and development cooperation activities, as appropriate;

67. *Encourages* the United Nations system and humanitarian organizations to continue their efforts to mainstream early recovery into humanitarian programming, acknowledges that early recovery is an important step towards resilience-building and should receive further funding, and encourages the provision of timely, flexible and predictable funding for early recovery, including through established and complementary humanitarian and development instruments;

68. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to prioritize risk management and shift towards an anticipatory approach to humanitarian crises in order to prevent and reduce human suffering and economic losses;

69. *Urges* Member States, humanitarian and development organizations and other stakeholders to ensure a comprehensive and coherent approach at the global, regional, national and local levels to El Niño and La Niña phenomena and similar or related events, including by strengthening forecasting, early warning and early action, prevention, preparedness, resilience-building and timely response, supported by effective leadership and predictable, adequate and early funding, when feasible, in regions, countries and communities likely to be affected, and notes the work of the Special Envoys of the Secretary-General on El Niño and Climate and the blueprint for action prepared by them, and the standard operating procedures for El Niño/Southern Oscillation events of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

70. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations to enhance the use of common risk analysis, including the use of the Index for Risk Management, to establish the evidence base for short-, medium- and long-term planning and joint strategies for disaster and climate risk management, capacity development and resilience-building, allowing for greater prioritization of resources where the risk is greatest;

71. *Encourages* the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to work towards a common understanding of underlying risks, clarify roles and responsibilities according to their respective mandates and establish joint objectives and programmes informed by affected people, data and analysis to strengthen coordination, collaboration and coherence among short-, medium- and long-term activities to progressively reduce needs and vulnerability, build resilience and manage the risk related to climate change and of disasters and development setbacks over multi-year planning cycles, including through integrating risk management into national sustainable development plans and ensuring the connectivity of humanitarian plans with the longer-term sustainable development priorities of Member States, with a view to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;<sup>394</sup>

72. *Stresses* the need to strengthen resilience at all levels, and in this regard encourages Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant actors to support efforts, as appropriate, to integrate resilience into humanitarian and development programming, and encourages humanitarian and development actors to pursue, where appropriate, common resilience and risk management objectives, achievable through joint analysis, planning, programming and funding;

73. *Encourages* Member States, international financial institutions and the private sector to support further development and, where appropriate, the strengthening of anticipatory financing approaches, to mobilize predictable

and multi-year support and to work collectively towards common results in order to reduce need, risk and vulnerability, making use of a wide range of financing flows and instruments and partnerships to mobilize additional resources in the field of natural disasters;

74. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to provide emergency assistance in ways that are supportive of recovery and long-term development, in collaboration with development organizations, as appropriate, in accordance with their respective mandates, including by prioritizing humanitarian tools and approaches that strengthen resilience, including preparedness, and support livelihoods, and to support further development and, where appropriate, the strengthening of anticipatory financing approaches, such as, but not limited to, cash transfers, vouchers, local procurement of food and services and social safety nets;

75. *Encourages* the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian and development actors to support humanitarian coordinators and resident coordinators in order to strengthen their capacity, inter alia, to support the host Government in implementing preparedness measures and to coordinate preparedness activities of country teams in support of national efforts, and encourages the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian actors to further strengthen the ability to quickly and flexibly deploy humanitarian professionals to support Governments and country teams in the immediate aftermath of a disaster;

76. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to identify ways to improve the current financing architecture in order to better provide coherent, predictable and flexible longer-term funding for risk management in multi-year strategies and forecasting, in particular preparedness, on the basis of a global assessment of risk, allowing for better prioritization of resources where the risk is greatest;

77. *Emphasizes* the need to mobilize adequate, flexible and sustainable resources for preparedness and disaster risk reduction, early action, rapid response and early recovery activities in order to ensure predictable and timely access to resources for humanitarian assistance in emergencies resulting from disasters associated with natural hazards;

78. *Welcomes* the important achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund in ensuring a more timely and predictable response to humanitarian emergencies, stresses the importance of continuing to improve the functioning of the Fund, and in this regard encourages the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to review and evaluate, where necessary, their partnership policies and practices in order to ensure the timely disbursement of funds from the Fund to implementing partners in order to ensure that resources are used in the most efficient, effective, accountable and transparent manner possible;

79. *Calls upon* all Member States, and invites the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions, to consider increasing their voluntary contributions to the Central Emergency Response Fund in order to achieve an annual funding level of 1 billion United States dollars, and to continue to reinforce and strengthen the Fund as the global emergency response fund, and emphasizes that contributions should be additional to current commitments to humanitarian programming and should not be to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development;

80. *Invites* Member States, the private sector and all other relevant stakeholders to harness their differentiated skills, capacities and resources, and also to consider voluntary contributions to humanitarian funding mechanisms;

81. *Strongly encourages* giving appropriate consideration to disaster risk reduction, including preparedness, and the building of resilience to disasters as integral elements of sustainable development and in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development<sup>402</sup> and promoting a complementary and coherent approach between those agendas and the Sendai Framework;

82. *Strongly encourages* all relevant actors to work to ensure a comprehensive, coherent, systematic and people-centred approach to managing risks, including through, as appropriate, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework, the Paris Agreement<sup>392</sup> and the New Urban Agenda;

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<sup>402</sup> Resolution 69/313, annex.



83. *Takes note* of the World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016, and of the report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the World Humanitarian Summit;<sup>403</sup>

84. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the international response to natural disasters and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session and to include in his report recommendations on how to ensure that humanitarian assistance is provided in ways supportive of the transition from relief to development.

### RESOLUTION 73/137

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.51](#) and [A/73/L.51/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, State of Palestine

#### **73/137. Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its resolution [46/182](#) of 19 December 1991 on the strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations,

*Recalling* all relevant resolutions on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, including its resolution [72/131](#) of 11 December 2017, as well as Security Council resolutions on the protection of humanitarian personnel, including resolution [2175 \(2014\)](#) of 29 August 2014, and relevant statements by the President of the Council,

*Recalling also* all Security Council resolutions and presidential statements and reports of the Secretary-General to the Council on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, including resolution [2286 \(2016\)](#) of 3 May 2016,

*Reaffirming* the principles, rules and relevant provisions of international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law, as well as all relevant treaties,<sup>404</sup> and the need to further promote and ensure respect thereof,

*Recalling* the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949<sup>405</sup> and the Additional Protocols thereto of 8 June 1977,<sup>406</sup> and the obligation of parties to armed conflict to respect and ensure respect for international humanitarian law in all circumstances, and urging all such parties to comply with international humanitarian law and ensure respect for and protection of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel,

*Recalling also* the specific obligations, under international humanitarian law, to respect and protect, in situations of armed conflict, medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, and hospitals and other medical facilities, which must not be unlawfully attacked, and to ensure that the wounded and sick receive, to the fullest extent practicable and with the least possible delay, the medical care and attention required,

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<sup>403</sup> [A/71/353](#).

<sup>404</sup> These include, notably, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations of 13 February 1946, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21 November 1947, the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 9 December 1994, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 8 December 2005, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949 and the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 8 June 1977, and Amended Protocol II of 3 May 1996 to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects of 10 October 1980, as applicable.

<sup>405</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

<sup>406</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

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*Deeply concerned* by the continuous disregard, in many cases, for the principles and rules of international law, in particular international humanitarian law,

*Reaffirming* the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

*Recalling* that primary responsibility under international law for the security and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel lies with the Government hosting a United Nations operation conducted under the Charter of the United Nations or its agreements with relevant organizations,

*Expressing its appreciation* to those Governments which respect the internationally agreed principles on the protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, while expressing concern over the lack of respect for these principles in some areas,

*Noting* the fact that the number of States parties to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,<sup>407</sup> which entered into force on 15 January 1999, has reached 94, mindful of the need to promote the universality of the Convention, and welcoming the entry into force on 19 August 2010 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,<sup>408</sup> which expands the scope of legal protection under the Convention,

*Expressing deep concern* at the complex and dynamic security environment, marked by the diverse and multifaceted threats and significant security risks faced by humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel as they operate in increasingly high-risk environments,

*Deeply concerned* about the particular vulnerability of locally recruited humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel to safety and security-related incidents, including assault, arrest and detention, acts of violence, road traffic accidents and abduction, and concerned that 67 per cent of United Nations personnel killed in 2017 were locally recruited,<sup>409</sup>

*Expressing deep concern* at the exposure of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel to certain forms of crime and acts of intimidation and harassment, including sexual violence and other forms of violence against women, and equally concerned at the significant rise in the number of reported sexual assaults against both male and female United Nations personnel,

*Expressing deep concern also* that the occurrence of attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel is a factor that severely restricts the provision of assistance and protection to populations in need, and commending the commitment of United Nations and other humanitarian personnel to stay and deliver effectively the most critical programmes even in dangerous environments,

*Stressing* the need to uphold the respect and protection which the flag of the United Nations, and the nature of humanitarian work, should command and ensure, and stressing the importance of fully respecting the obligations relating to the use of vehicles and premises of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel as defined by relevant international instruments, as well as the obligations relating to distinctive emblems recognized in the Geneva Conventions,

*Noting* that medical personnel, and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, in an armed conflict situation continue to be under a duty to provide competent medical service in full professional and moral independence, with compassion and respect for human dignity, and always to bear in mind human life and to act in the patient's best interest, stressing the need to uphold their respective professional codes of ethics, and further noting the applicable rules of international humanitarian law relating to the non-punishment of any person for carrying out medical activities compatible with medical ethics,

*Commending* the courage and commitment of those who take part in humanitarian operations, especially national and locally recruited personnel, and including those serving with national and international non-governmental

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<sup>407</sup> Ibid., vol. 2051, No. 35457.

<sup>408</sup> Ibid., vol. 2689, No. 35457.

<sup>409</sup> [A/73/392](#), [A/73/392/Corr.1](#) and [A/73/392/Corr.2](#), para. 24.

organizations in the field, often at great personal risk, especially when working in situations of armed conflict and exposed to direct violence, injury and risk of illness with limited access to medical and emergency facilities,

*Commending also* the courage and commitment of those who take part in peace operations, including peacekeeping operations,<sup>410</sup> often at great personal risk, especially national and locally recruited personnel,

*Noting with concern* the evolving threats that United Nations personnel face when deployed and that, in 2017, 1,473 persons were affected by safety and security incidents, with 22 fatalities, of which 9 resulted from acts of violence, namely, crime, acts of terrorism and armed conflict, 181 injuries, of which 70 resulted from acts of violence, 8 abductions, 63 arrests and detentions and 316 reported cases of intimidation and harassment,<sup>411</sup> and noting that these figures do not include United Nations personnel who are not part of the United Nations security management system, such as locally recruited area staff of UNRWA, of whom 8 were injured, 21 were arrested and detained and 109 reported cases of intimidation and harassment in 2017,<sup>412</sup>

*Strongly condemning* all acts of violence, attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel, expressing profound regret at the deaths, injuries and abductions resulting from these attacks, noting with concern that there were 158 recorded attacks against humanitarian personnel in 2017, resulting in at least 139 personnel killed, 102 injured and 72 abducted,<sup>413</sup> and noting with concern that casualties continue to take a heavier toll on personnel of non-governmental organizations than on United Nations personnel,<sup>414</sup>

*Strongly condemning also* all acts of violence, attacks and threats against medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities, and the prevailing impunity for violations and abuses committed against such personnel, which in turn may contribute to the recurrence of those acts, and deploring the long-term consequences of such acts, which undermine relevant efforts to build up and strengthen health systems for the population and the health-care systems of the countries concerned, and in this regard welcoming efforts by States, international and non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders to strengthen compliance with international humanitarian law by raising awareness of and promoting preparedness to address the grave and serious humanitarian consequences arising from such violence,

*Noting with appreciation* all the measures taken to enhance the performance of the United Nations security management system,

*Expressing profound regret* at the deaths, illnesses and other adverse consequences affecting humanitarian personnel and health-care personnel as a result of public health hazards, and stressing the need for a conducive environment, appropriate equipment and resilient public health systems, and the urgency of preparedness,

*Expressing deep concern* at the deep and long-lasting impacts of acts of violence, attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel,

*Strongly condemning* acts of murder and other forms of violence, rape and sexual assault and all forms of violence committed in particular against women and children, and intimidation, armed robbery, abduction, hostage-taking, kidnapping, harassment and illegal arrest and detention, to which those participating in humanitarian operations are exposed, as well as attacks on humanitarian convoys and acts of destruction and looting of property of humanitarian and United Nations and associated personnel,

*Affirming* the need for States to ensure that perpetrators of attacks committed on their territory against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel and against their premises or assets do not operate with impunity,

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<sup>410</sup> The safety and security of United Nations peacekeepers is specifically addressed in the annual report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 19 (A/71/19)*). Except where otherwise specified, the present resolution focuses only on the safety and security of civilian United Nations and associated personnel falling under the United Nations security management system under the responsibility of the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat.

<sup>411</sup> See [A/73/392](#), [A/73/392/Corr.1](#) and [A/73/392/Corr.2](#), annexes I and III.

<sup>412</sup> *Ibid.*, annex V.

<sup>413</sup> See Aid Worker Security Report 2018.

<sup>414</sup> These data are based entirely on voluntary reporting to the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat (see [A/73/392](#), [A/73/392/Corr.1](#) and [A/73/392/Corr.2](#), annex IV). The personnel of non-governmental organizations are not covered by the United Nations security management system.

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that such attacks are investigated promptly and effectively and that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice, as provided for by national laws and in accordance with obligations under international law,

*Recognizing* the role of investigations in the prevention of incidents and the promotion of respect for international humanitarian law,

*Recalling* the inclusion of attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter, as long as they are entitled to the protection given to civilians or civilian objects under the international law of armed conflict, as a war crime in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,<sup>415</sup> and noting the role that the Court can play in appropriate cases in bringing to justice those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law,

*Reaffirming* the need to ensure adequate levels of safety and security for United Nations and associated personnel, including locally recruited personnel, which constitutes an underlying duty of the Organization, and mindful of the need to promote and enhance security consciousness within the organizational culture of the United Nations and a culture of accountability at all levels, as well as to continue to promote awareness of and sensitivity to national and local cultures and laws,

*Gravely concerned* at the increased number of accidents and resulting casualties among United Nations and associated personnel, and conscious of the importance of road and aviation safety in ensuring the continuity of United Nations operations and preventing casualties among civilians and United Nations and associated personnel, and in this regard regretting the loss of civilian life as a result of such incidents,

*Stressing* that acceptance of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel by the host Governments, local authorities, local communities, populations and other parties as appropriate crucially contributes to their safety and security,

*Noting* the importance of reinforcing close collaboration between the United Nations and the host country on contingency planning, information exchange and risk assessment in the context of good mutual cooperation on issues relating to the security of United Nations and associated personnel, as well as the importance of coordinating prevention and mitigation measures and managing security in crisis situations,

*Noting also* the importance of further collaboration between the United Nations, its humanitarian agencies and other humanitarian organizations working in accordance with the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence on information-sharing and risk assessment with regard to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel,

*Noting further* that, in order to remain fit for purpose and to support the effective and principled delivery of humanitarian assistance, the United Nations security management system needs to evolve in response to the challenging global security environment, requiring, inter alia, an effective management structure, adequate and predictable resources and the timely deployment of security personnel with appropriate skills and field experience and of the equipment necessary for the performance of their duties, including vehicles and telecommunications equipment, which have an essential role in facilitating the safety of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>416</sup>

2. *Urges* all States to make every effort to ensure the full and effective implementation of the relevant principles and rules of international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law, and refugee law as applicable, related to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel;

3. *Condemns in the strongest possible terms* the continued threats to and deliberate targeting of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, acts of terrorism and attacks on humanitarian convoys, and the continued increase in the scale and the increasingly complex nature of threats faced by such personnel, such as the disturbing trend of politically and criminally motivated attacks, including extremist attacks, against them;

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<sup>415</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

<sup>416</sup> [A/73/392](#), [A/73/392/Corr.1](#) and [A/73/392/Corr.2](#).

4. *Strongly urges* all States to take the measures necessary to ensure the safety and security of national and international humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel and to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises, which are essential to the continuation and successful implementation of United Nations operations;

5. *Calls upon* all Governments and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel and the delivery of supplies and equipment, in order to allow those personnel to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

6. *Calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to and to respect fully their obligations under the relevant international instruments;

7. *Also calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;<sup>415</sup>

8. *Further calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,<sup>408</sup> and urges States parties to put in place appropriate national legislation, as necessary, to enable its effective implementation;

9. *Calls upon* all States, all parties involved in armed conflict and all humanitarian actors to respect the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance;

10. *Welcomes* the contribution of female humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel in humanitarian and United Nations operations, expresses concern that these personnel may be more exposed to certain forms of violence, including sexual violence, crime and acts of intimidation and harassment, strongly urges the United Nations system and Member States to analyse the different forms of violence, including sexual violence, crime, acts of intimidation and harassment to which women and men are differently exposed, and also strongly urges the United Nations system and Member States to choose appropriate and gender-sensitive approaches for their safety and security while allowing them to fulfil their duties, and to ensure that female humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel are meaningfully included in decisions related to their safety and security, and that all reports of sexual violence against humanitarian workers are thoroughly investigated and the alleged perpetrators brought to justice, in accordance with applicable laws;

11. *Strongly condemns* all acts of violence, attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, also condemns attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a peacekeeping mission<sup>410</sup> in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations as long as they are entitled to protection from attack under international humanitarian law, and reaffirms the need to prosecute, penalize and punish those responsible for such acts;

12. *Stresses* the importance of continued close coordination and consultation with host Governments on the functioning of the security risk management process and related tools, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to continue to consult with the host Governments;

13. *Also stresses* the importance of ensuring that the security and safety of humanitarian and United Nations personnel is consistently and integrally considered in the planning for humanitarian action;

14. *Calls upon* all States to comply fully with their obligations under international humanitarian law, including as provided for under the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949,<sup>417</sup> in order to respect and protect civilians, including humanitarian personnel;

15. *Stresses* the obligation, in accordance with international humanitarian law and national laws and regulations, as applicable, to respect and protect medical personnel, as well as humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities, in all circumstances, in this regard notes the role of domestic legal frameworks and other appropriate measures in

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<sup>417</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

promoting the safety and protection of such personnel, urges States and all parties to armed conflict to develop and integrate effective measures to prevent and address violence against such personnel, their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities, and strongly urges States to conduct full, prompt, impartial and effective investigations within their jurisdiction of violations of international humanitarian law related to the protection of the wounded and sick, medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities in armed conflict, and, where appropriate, to take action against those responsible in accordance with domestic and international law, with a view to reinforcing preventive measures, ensuring accountability and addressing the grievances of victims;

16. *Strongly urges* all States to take stronger action to ensure that crimes against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, and personnel involved in a peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter as long as they are entitled to protection from attack under international humanitarian law, do not remain unpunished and are investigated fully and effectively, and affirms the need for States to ensure that perpetrators of any such acts committed on their territory do not operate with impunity, as provided for by national laws and obligations under international law;

17. *Calls upon* all States to provide adequate and prompt information in the event of the arrest or detention of humanitarian personnel or United Nations and associated personnel so as to afford them the necessary medical assistance and to allow independent medical teams to visit and examine the health of those detained and to ensure their right to legal counsel, and urges States to take the measures necessary to ensure the speedy release of those who have been arrested or detained in violation of the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law;

18. *Calls upon* all parties involved in armed conflict not to abduct, take hostage or kidnap humanitarian personnel or United Nations and associated personnel or to detain them in violation of the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law, and speedily to release, without harm or requirement of concession, any abductee or detainee;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the measures necessary to promote full respect for the human rights, privileges and immunities of United Nations and associated personnel, and also requests the Secretary-General to seek the inclusion, in negotiations of headquarters and other mission agreements concerning United Nations and associated personnel, of the applicable conditions contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,<sup>418</sup> the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies<sup>419</sup> and the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;<sup>407</sup>

20. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General continue to seek the inclusion of, and that host countries include, key provisions of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, among others, those regarding the prevention of attacks against members of the operation, the establishment of such attacks as crimes punishable by law and the prosecution or extradition of offenders, in future as well as, if necessary, in existing status-of-forces, status-of-mission, host country and other related agreements negotiated between the United Nations and those countries, mindful of the importance of the timely conclusion of such agreements, and encourages further efforts in this regard;

21. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to strengthen the ongoing efforts of the United Nations to develop a more systematic follow-up process with relevant host Governments on cases of serious crimes and acts of violence resulting in the death or serious injury of United Nations system personnel, in order to bring perpetrators to justice;

22. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption by the Department of Safety and Security, in collaboration with other departments and offices of the Secretariat, of standard operating procedures on the victims of violence registry for fatalities in service, designed to provide follow-up with relevant host Governments on cases of serious crimes and acts of violence resulting in the death or serious injury of United Nations personnel;

23. *Calls attention to and reaffirms* the obligation of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel to respect and, where required, observe the national laws of the country in which they are operating, in accordance with international law and the Charter;

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<sup>418</sup> Resolution 22 A (I).

<sup>419</sup> Resolution 179 (II).



## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

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24. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring that humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel are aware and respectful of national and local customs and traditions in their countries of assignment and communicate clearly their purpose and objectives to local populations in order to enhance their acceptance, thereby contributing to their safety and security, and in this regard ensure that humanitarian action is guided by humanitarian principles;

25. *Urges* the United Nations and other relevant humanitarian actors to include as part of their risk management strategy the building of good relations and trust with national and local governments and the promotion of acceptance by local communities and all relevant actors with a view to enhancing safety and security, and encourages Member States to support efforts by the United Nations and other relevant humanitarian actors to provide training to humanitarian personnel in this regard;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take the measures necessary to ensure that United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation are properly informed about and operate in conformity with mandatory security risk management measures and relevant codes of conduct and are properly informed about the conditions under which they are called upon to operate and the standards that they are required to meet, including those contained in relevant national laws and international law, and that adequate training in security, human rights law and international humanitarian law is provided so as to enhance their security and effectiveness in accomplishing their functions, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

27. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue, in coordination with Member States, to take the measures necessary to ensure that all United Nations premises and assets, including staff residences, are compliant with the United Nations mandatory security risk management measures and other relevant United Nations security standards, and to continue the ongoing assessment of United Nations premises and physical security worldwide;

28. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to ensure that all United Nations personnel receive adequate safety and security training, stresses the need to continue to improve training so as to enhance cultural awareness and knowledge of relevant law, including international humanitarian law, prior to their deployment to the field, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

29. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the Secretary-General to provide counselling and support services to United Nations personnel affected by safety and security incidents, and emphasizes the importance of making available stress management, mental health and related services for United Nations personnel throughout the system, and encourages all humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

30. *Further welcomes* the ongoing measures taken by the Secretary-General and the United Nations system to enhance road safety, including through the United Nations system road safety strategy, so as to reduce incidents caused by road hazards and, in particular, to reduce casualties or injuries resulting from such incidents among United Nations and associated personnel and among the civilian population in the host country, and requests the Secretary-General to continue the collection and analysis of data and to report on road incidents, including civilian casualties resulting from road accidents;

31. *Welcomes* the progress made towards further enhancing the security management system of the United Nations, including the major progress in the completion of the integration of all security personnel of the Secretariat under the leadership of the Under-Secretary-General for Safety and Security, and supports the continued implementation of the stay-and-deliver strategy while focusing on effectively managing the risks to which personnel are exposed in order to enable the United Nations system to deliver the most critical programmes, even in high-risk environments;

32. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue consistent implementation of the programme criticality framework as an operational tool allowing informed decisions on acceptable risk to United Nations personnel, and welcomes the revised programme criticality framework;

33. *Also encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to develop enabling procedures that facilitate the deployment of suitably qualified United Nations security personnel with the appropriate knowledge, skills and experience, with the aim of improving the safety and security measures of the United Nations, in order to strengthen the ability of the United Nations to deliver on its programmes, mandates and activities, including humanitarian programmes;

## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

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34. *Requests* the Secretary-General, inter alia, through the Inter-Agency Security Management Network, to continue the increased cooperation and collaboration among United Nations departments, organizations, funds and programmes and affiliated international organizations, including between their headquarters and field offices, in the planning and implementation of measures aimed at improving staff security, training and awareness, including field crisis management and gender inclusion in security management, calls upon all relevant United Nations departments, organizations, funds and programmes and affiliated international organizations to support those efforts, and notes the approval by the Inter-Agency Security Management Network of a system-wide policy on the security of locally recruited personnel;

35. *Calls upon* all relevant actors to make every effort to support in their public statements a favourable environment for the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, including locally recruited personnel;

36. *Emphasizes* the need to pay particular attention to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, who play an important role, are often at great personal risk, account for the large majority of casualties and are particularly vulnerable to attacks, including in cases of kidnapping, harassment, banditry and intimidation, requests the Secretary-General to keep under review the relevant United Nations safety and security policy and to enhance the safety and security of locally recruited personnel, while maintaining operational effectiveness, and calls upon the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to ensure that their personnel are adequately consulted on, informed about and trained in the relevant security measures, plans and initiatives of their respective organizations, which should be in line with applicable national laws and international law;

37. *Requests* the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat to further strengthen the security management of the United Nations, focusing on strengthening security risk management policy and tools and their application, increasing situational awareness and analysis capacity, strengthening policy development and promoting best practices, increasing compliance with risk management measures and improving monitoring and evaluation, enhancing surge capacity for emergency response, devising effective physical security measures, developing the expertise of security professionals and strengthening support to the designated officials and the security management teams in the field, and promoting an effective and preventive security management approach that is multidimensional;

38. *Welcomes* the work of the Secretary-General in enhancing security collaboration with host Governments, including efforts to support United Nations designated officials with regard to collaboration with host government authorities on the safety and security of personnel;

39. *Stresses* that the effective functioning at the country level of security operations requires a unified and robust capacity for policy, standards, coordination, communication, compliance and threat and risk assessment and operational and deployment flexibility to ensure that the security workforce reflects the changing dynamics of the security environment, and notes the benefits thereof to United Nations and associated personnel, including those achieved by the Department of Safety and Security since its establishment;

40. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Secretary-General thus far to strengthen partnerships, and encourages further efforts to enhance coordination, cooperation and information-sharing, at both the headquarters and field levels, between the United Nations and other humanitarian and non-governmental organizations on matters relating to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, with a view to addressing mutual security concerns in the field, based on the Saving Lives Together framework as well as other relevant national and local initiatives in this regard, and requests the Secretary-General in this respect to enhance further collaborative initiatives to address the security needs of implementing partners, including through enhanced information-sharing and, where appropriate, security training, invites Member States to consider increasing support to those initiatives, and requests the Secretary-General to report on steps taken in this regard;

41. *Underlines* the urgent need to allocate adequate and predictable resources to the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel, through regular and extrabudgetary resources, including through the consolidated appeals process, and encourages all States to contribute to the trust fund for security of staff members of the United Nations system, inter alia, with a view to reinforcing the efforts of the Department of Safety and Security to meet its mandate and responsibilities to enable the safe delivery of programmes;

42. *Also underlines* the need for better coordination between the United Nations and host Governments, in accordance with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, on the use and deployment of essential

equipment required to provide for the safety and security of United Nations personnel and associated personnel working in the delivery of humanitarian assistance by United Nations organizations;

43. *Calls upon* States to consider acceding to or ratifying the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations of 18 June 1998,<sup>420</sup> which entered into force on 8 January 2005, and urges them to facilitate and expedite, consistent with their national laws and international obligations applicable to them, the use of communications equipment in those and other relief operations, inter alia, by limiting and, whenever possible, expeditiously lifting the restrictions placed on the use of communications equipment by United Nations and associated personnel;

44. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a comprehensive and updated report on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel and on the implementation of the present resolution, including an assessment of the impact of safety and security risks on such personnel, and the development, implementation and outcomes of policies, strategies and initiatives of the United Nations system in the field of safety and security.

### RESOLUTION 73/138

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.53](#) and [A/73/L.53/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam

#### **73/138. White Helmets Commission: participation of volunteers in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its resolutions [50/19](#) of 28 November 1995, [52/171](#) of 16 December 1997, [54/98](#) of 8 December 1999, [56/102](#) of 14 December 2001, [58/118](#) of 17 December 2003, [61/220](#) of 20 December 2006, [64/75](#) of 7 December 2009, [67/84](#) of 13 December 2012, [69/134](#) of 12 December 2014 and [70/105](#) of 10 December 2015,

*Reaffirming also* its resolution [46/182](#) of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, and reaffirming further other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and relevant resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Economic and Social Council,

*Emphasizing* the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence in the provision of humanitarian assistance, and reaffirming the need for all actors engaged in the provision of humanitarian assistance in situations of complex emergencies and natural disasters to promote and fully respect these principles,

*Emphasizing also* the need for close collaboration between relief and development activities in the context of humanitarian emergencies, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>421</sup>

*Recognizing* that the international community, in addressing the growing magnitude and complexity of disasters and chronic challenges, such as hunger, malnutrition and poverty, must rely on the formulation of a well-coordinated global response within the framework of the United Nations and on the promotion of a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development,

*Underscoring* the need, in order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and achieve development, to better align, wherever appropriate, humanitarian and development assistance with national

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<sup>420</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2296, No. 40906.

<sup>421</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

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development priorities and strategies, and encouraging Member States, as well as the United Nations system and regional organizations in supporting the efforts of Member States, to tackle the root causes of humanitarian crises, including poverty and underdevelopment, to strengthen disaster risk reduction, including preparedness, to build the resilience of affected States, including host communities, and to reduce humanitarian needs,

*Recognizing* the progress made by Member States, the United Nations system and other international organizations with regard to disaster risk management and coordination in the provision of humanitarian assistance,

*Recognizing also* that the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030<sup>422</sup> applies to the risk of small-scale and large-scale, frequent and infrequent, sudden and slow-onset disasters caused by natural or man-made hazards, as well as related environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks,

*Recognizing further* the need for the public and private sectors and civil society organizations, as well as academia and scientific and research institutions, to work more closely together and to create opportunities for collaboration, and for businesses to integrate disaster risk into their management practices,

*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,

*Noting* the World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016, and taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the World Humanitarian Summit,<sup>423</sup>

*Noting also* the contributions of the global, regional and subregional platforms for disaster risk reduction,

*Reaffirming* the importance of continued efforts by the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and, as appropriate, other relevant humanitarian actors to improve the humanitarian response to natural and man-made disasters and complex emergencies by further strengthening humanitarian response capacities at all levels, by continuing to strengthen the provision and coordination of humanitarian assistance at the global, regional and field levels,

*Emphasizing* the importance of global, regional, national and local policies and strategies for prevention, preparedness, response and recovery in disasters and humanitarian crises, with a view to integrating a gender perspective, as well as a perspective on the needs of children, young people, older persons and persons with disabilities, in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster risk reduction, and reaffirming that it is essential to ensure that women are empowered to effectively and meaningfully participate in leadership and decision-making processes,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, submitted in compliance with resolutions 46/182 and 72/133 of 11 December 2017,<sup>424</sup> in particular paragraph 96 of the report, in which an update is provided on collaboration between the White Helmets, an initiative of the Government of Argentina, and the United Nations, and it is noted that since 1994, more than 700 White Helmets volunteers have provided assistance in 71 countries and undertaken 291 international humanitarian missions, many in coordination with the United Nations, and strengthened links with United Nations system agencies through agreements, joint workplans, financial support and field missions;

2. *Highlights* that the White Helmets is a volunteer corps composed entirely of civilians that develops its activities on the basis of cooperation, solidarity and the participation of communities;

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<sup>422</sup> Resolution 69/283, annex II.

<sup>423</sup> A/71/353.

<sup>424</sup> A/73/78-E/2018/54.

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3. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the White Helmets to humanitarian assistance, disaster risk management and the achievement of sustainable development;
4. *Recognizes* that the White Helmets initiative has demonstrated the potential of regional partnerships and has encouraged the participation of affected or vulnerable populations in the tasks of planning, training, mobilizing and providing an immediate response in disaster situations and complex emergencies, while integrating a gender perspective into its activities;
5. *Commends* national and international volunteers, including the White Helmets, for their contributions and their fundamental role in disaster risk reduction, response and recovery;
6. *Takes note* of the renewal, signed in 2016, of the memorandum of understanding between the White Helmets and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which established the framework for the deployment of White Helmets volunteers in support of the emergency responses of the Office of the High Commissioner, and recognizes the efforts made by the World Food Programme and the White Helmets for joint action within the framework of food security, including the exchange of information among stakeholders in the field, and the international humanitarian assistance activities that the White Helmets developed with the International Organization for Migration;
7. *Encourages* the United Nations system, including the World Health Organization, and operational partners of the United Nations, in providing psychosocial support to the disaster-affected population in emergency and disaster situations, to draw on, as appropriate, the voluntary expertise of the White Helmets, which has been successfully tested, and invites Member States to consider means of integrating the White Helmets initiative into their programme activities;
8. *Recognizes* the international humanitarian activities that the White Helmets developed in the period from 2016 to 2018 in coordination with the national authorities of disaster-affected countries and the agencies of the United Nations system and its partners in the design, preparedness, organization and deployment of humanitarian assistance, including response, recovery and reconstruction following disasters and building of resilience, and in addressing the consequences of humanitarian emergencies for migrants, in particular those in vulnerable situations;
9. *Invites* the Secretary-General, on the basis of the experience acquired, to continue to consider the use of the White Helmets initiative as a resource suitable for preventing and mitigating the effects of disasters and other humanitarian crises;
10. *Recognizes* the agreement signed between the United Nations Office for Project Services and the White Helmets Commission, which extends until 2019 and will allow for the continuation of the work launched in 1995, and invites Member States to consider means of supporting collaboration of the White Helmets with their programme activities and to consider making financial resources available to the special voluntary fund of the United Nations Office for Project Services;
11. *Invites* the Secretary-General, on the basis of the work experience acquired by the White Helmets in the international field, as recognized in various resolutions of the General Assembly, and in view of the success of coordinated actions carried out with, inter alia, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, the World Health Organization, the Pan American Health Organization, the World Food Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Volunteers, to suggest measures to enhance the collaboration of the White Helmets initiative with the United Nations system and to report thereon to the Assembly at its seventy-sixth session in a separate section of the annual report on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations.

### RESOLUTION 73/139

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.61](#) and [A/73/L.61/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon,

Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Zambia

**73/139. Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its resolution [46/182](#) of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Council,

*Taking note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations<sup>425</sup> and on the Central Emergency Response Fund,<sup>426</sup>

*Reaffirming* the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence in the provision of humanitarian assistance, and reaffirming also the need for all actors engaged in the provision of humanitarian assistance in situations of complex emergencies and natural disasters to promote and fully respect these principles,

*Expressing grave concern* at the increasing challenges caused by the unprecedented number of people affected by humanitarian emergencies, including protracted displacement, which are increasing in number, scale and severity and are stretching humanitarian response capacities, and expressing deep concern about the impact of climate change, the ongoing consequences of the financial and economic crisis, regional food crises, continuing food and energy insecurity, water scarcity, unplanned and rapid urbanization of populations, epidemics, natural hazards, environmental degradation, armed conflicts and acts of terrorism, which are adding to underdevelopment, poverty and inequality and are increasing the vulnerability of people while reducing their ability to cope with humanitarian crises,

*Underscoring* the need, in order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development, to better align, wherever appropriate, humanitarian and development assistance with national development priorities and strategies, and encouraging Member States, as well as the United Nations system and regional organizations in supporting the efforts of Member States, to tackle the root causes of humanitarian crises, including poverty and underdevelopment, build the resilience of affected States, including host communities, and reduce humanitarian needs,

*Concerned* about the growing gap between humanitarian needs and resources, welcoming non-traditional donors, and emphasizing the need to mobilize adequate, predictable, timely and flexible resources for humanitarian assistance, based on and in proportion to assessed risks and needs, with a view to planning for, mitigating, preparing for, responding to and recovering from humanitarian emergencies,

*Recognizing*, in this regard, the significant achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund in facilitating life-saving assistance to crisis-affected people by providing timely funding, enabling humanitarian organizations and their implementing partners to act quickly when tragedy strikes and steer resources to crises that do not receive the attention that they need and deserve, emphasizing the need to broaden and diversify the income base of the Fund, and welcoming in this regard the call by the Secretary-General to increase the level of the Fund to 1 billion United States dollars,

*Recognizing also* the significant achievements of country-based pooled funds in facilitating assistance to people in need, noting the Secretary-General's call for donors to increase the proportion of humanitarian appeal funding channelled through country-based pooled funds, and noting also that other pooled funding mechanisms can make important contributions,

*Emphasizing* that strengthened needs analysis, risk management and strategic planning, in coordination with affected States, including through the use of open and disaggregated data, are crucial elements to ensure a better informed, more effective, transparent and collective response to the needs of people affected by crises,

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<sup>425</sup> [A/73/78-E/2018/54](#).

<sup>426</sup> [A/73/170](#).



*Reiterating* the need for Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant actors to mainstream a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance and integrate a gender perspective into all disaster risk reduction efforts, including by addressing the specific needs, and promoting the priorities and capacities, of women, girls, men and boys in a comprehensive and consistent manner, and also respecting and protecting their rights, recognizing that in humanitarian emergencies, women, girls and boys face heightened risks to their safety, health and well-being, and also reiterating that it is essential to ensure that women are empowered to effectively and meaningfully participate in leadership and decision-making processes,

*Reiterating also* the need for Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant actors to improve accountability at all levels to the needs of affected populations, and recognizing the importance of inclusive participation in decision-making,

*Recognizing* that persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected in humanitarian emergencies and face multiple barriers in accessing assistance, recalling the need for the involvement of persons with disabilities in decision-making processes and for mainstreaming, where possible, their perspectives and needs in humanitarian preparedness and response, and in this regard recalling the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action,

*Expressing its deep concern* about the increasing challenges faced by Member States and the United Nations humanitarian response system and their capacities as a result of the consequences of disasters, including those related to the continuing impact of climate change, and reaffirming the need for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>427</sup>

*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement<sup>428</sup> and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>429</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Reaffirming* the adoption of the New Urban Agenda by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,<sup>430</sup> and noting the commitments undertaken therein by Member States regarding persons affected by humanitarian crises in urban areas,

*Recognizing* the primary role of Member States in preparing for and responding to outbreaks of infectious disease, in compliance with the International Health Regulations (2005) adopted by the World Health Assembly,<sup>431</sup> including those that become humanitarian crises, highlighting the critical role played by Member States, the World Health Organization as the directing and coordinating authority of international health work, the United Nations humanitarian system, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other humanitarian actors in providing financial, technical and in-kind support in order to bring epidemics or pandemics under control, and recognizing also the need to strengthen local and national health systems, early reporting and early warning systems, preparedness, cross-sectoral response capacities, and resilience linked to outbreaks of infectious disease, including through capacity-building for developing countries,

*Recognizing also* that developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, remain acutely vulnerable to human and economic loss resulting from natural hazards, and recognizing further the need for strengthening international cooperation, as appropriate, to strengthen their resilience in this regard,

*Recognizing further* that inclusive economic growth and sustainable development are essential for the prevention of and preparedness for natural disasters and other emergencies,

*Recognizing*, in this respect, that building national and local preparedness and response capacity through, inter alia, appropriate, inclusive and conducive public policies and international assistance, is critical to a more predictable

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<sup>427</sup> Resolution 69/283, annex II.

<sup>428</sup> See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.

<sup>429</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>430</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

<sup>431</sup> World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1, resolution 58.3, annex.

and effective response and contributes to the achievement of humanitarian and development objectives, including enhanced resilience and a reduced need for humanitarian response,

*Emphasizing* the fundamentally civilian character of humanitarian assistance, and reaffirming, in situations in which military capacity and assets are used as a last resort to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance, the need for their use to be undertaken with the consent of the affected State and in conformity with international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as humanitarian principles,

*Recognizing* the high number of people affected by humanitarian emergencies, including the unprecedented number of people who are forcibly displaced, of whom a majority are women and children, owing to conflict, acts of terrorism, persecution, violence and other reasons, and who are often displaced for protracted periods, wherein the national authorities have the primary duty and responsibility to provide protection and humanitarian assistance and promote durable solutions for internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction, bearing in mind their particular needs,

*Noting* the need for increased awareness of the international community regarding the issue of internal displacement worldwide, including the situation of the millions living in protracted situations of displacement, and the urgency of providing adequate humanitarian assistance to and protection for internally displaced persons, supporting host communities, addressing the root causes of displacement, finding durable solutions for internally displaced persons in their countries and addressing possible obstacles in this regard, and recognizing that durable solutions include voluntary return in safety and with dignity, as well as voluntary local integration in the areas to which persons have been displaced or voluntary settlement in another part of the country, without prejudice to the right of internally displaced persons to leave their country or to seek asylum,

*Reaffirming* the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, held on 19 September 2016,<sup>432</sup>

*Expressing concern* about the particular difficulties faced by the millions of refugees in protracted situations, recognizing that the average length of stay has continued to grow, and emphasizing the need to redouble international efforts and cooperation to find practical and comprehensive approaches to resolving their plight and to realize durable solutions for them, consistent with the Charter of the United Nations, international law and relevant General Assembly resolutions,

*Noting with great concern* that millions of people are facing famine or the immediate risk of famine or are experiencing severe food insecurity in several regions of the world, and noting that armed conflicts, drought, poverty and the volatility of commodity prices are among the factors causing or exacerbating famine and severe food insecurity and that additional efforts, including international support, are urgently needed to address this,

*Recognizing* the importance of international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions of 1949,<sup>433</sup> which provides a vital legal framework for the protection of civilian persons in time of war, including the provision of humanitarian assistance,

*Strongly condemning* all acts of violence, including direct attacks, against humanitarian personnel and facilities, as well as against medical personnel and other humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, and hospitals and other medical facilities, which in a majority of cases affect locally recruited personnel, noting with concern the negative implications for the provision of humanitarian assistance to populations in need, and welcoming efforts such as the Health Care in Danger project of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, together with States, international and non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders, to strengthen compliance with international humanitarian law by raising awareness, and promoting preparedness to address the grave and serious humanitarian consequences arising from such violence,

*Recalling* the obligations of all States and parties to an armed conflict, in accordance with the relevant provisions of international humanitarian law to respect and protect, in situations of armed conflict, medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, and hospitals and other medical facilities, which must not be attacked, and to ensure that the wounded and sick receive, to the fullest

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<sup>432</sup> Resolution 71/1.

<sup>433</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

extent practicable and with the least possible delay, the medical care and attention required, and noting the applicable rules of international humanitarian law relating to the non-punishment of any person for carrying out medical activities compatible with medical ethics,

*Noting with grave concern* that violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, and violence against children, including sexual violence, continues to be deliberately directed against civilian populations during and after humanitarian situations,

*Recognizing* that, while women and girls are disproportionately affected, men and boys can also be victims and/or survivors of sexual and gender-based violence,

*Noting with appreciation* the efforts that Member States, the United Nations and other relevant actors continue to make to improve the effectiveness of humanitarian response based on needs, including by strengthening humanitarian response capacities, improving humanitarian coordination, identifying and integrating appropriate innovation into humanitarian preparedness, response and recovery, increasing transparency, reducing duplication, strengthening partnerships with local and national responders as appropriate, enhancing flexible, predictable and adequate funding and strengthening the accountability of all stakeholders,

*Noting with grave concern* that children and youth continue to lack education in situations of complex emergencies, and emphasizing the urgent need for increased financing and more efficient delivery of quality education in humanitarian emergencies,

*Recognizing* that, in strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance in the field, the organizations of the United Nations system should continue to consult and work in close coordination with national Governments,

*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 and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions,

1. *Welcomes* the outcome of the twenty-first humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2018,<sup>434</sup> and also welcomes the adoption of Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/11 of 21 June 2018;

2. *Requests* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue his efforts to strengthen the coordination and accountability of humanitarian assistance and leadership within the United Nations humanitarian response system, including through the transformative agenda of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, and calls upon relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, as well as other humanitarian and development actors, to continue to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian assistance;

3. *Also requests* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue to improve dialogue with all Member States on the relevant processes, activities and deliberations of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

4. *Encourages* Member States and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to continue to improve dialogue and collaboration on humanitarian issues, at the global and field levels, including on policy, in order to foster a more consultative and inclusive approach to humanitarian assistance;

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<sup>434</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/73/3)*, chap. X.

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5. *Welcomes* the continued efforts by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to build partnerships with regional organizations and non-traditional donors and the private sector, and encourages Member States and the United Nations system to continue to strengthen partnerships at the global, regional, national and local levels in support of national efforts in order to effectively cooperate to provide humanitarian assistance to those in need and ensure that their collaborative efforts adhere to the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence;

6. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and humanitarian and development organizations to continue to assess and improve, together with other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, how innovation can be more proactively and systematically identified and integrated into humanitarian action in a sustainable manner and to promote the sharing of best practices and lessons learned on innovative tools, processes and approaches, including those from large-scale natural disasters and humanitarian crises of a protracted nature, that could improve the effectiveness and quality of humanitarian response, and in this regard encourages all relevant stakeholders to continue to support the efforts of Member States, in particular developing countries, to strengthen their capacities, including through facilitating access to information and communications technologies;

7. *Welcomes* innovative practices that draw on the knowledge of people affected by humanitarian emergencies to develop locally sustainable solutions and to produce life-saving items locally, with minimal logistical and infrastructure implications;

8. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and, as appropriate, other relevant humanitarian actors to continue efforts to improve the humanitarian response to natural and man-made disasters and complex emergencies by further strengthening humanitarian response capacities at all levels, by continuing to strengthen the provision and coordination of humanitarian assistance at the global, regional and field levels, including through existing cluster coordination mechanisms and in support of national authorities of the affected State, as appropriate, and by further enhancing efficiency, transparency, performance and accountability;

9. *Recognizes* the benefits of engagement and coordination with relevant humanitarian actors to the effectiveness of humanitarian response, and encourages the United Nations to continue to pursue efforts to strengthen partnerships at the global level with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, relevant humanitarian non-governmental organizations, other participants in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and other relevant stakeholders;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen the support provided to United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators and to United Nations country teams, including by providing necessary training, identifying resources and improving the identification of and the selection process for United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators, and enhancing their performance accountability;

11. *Calls upon* the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group and the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue to enhance their consultations before presenting final recommendations on the selection process for resident coordinators in countries likely to require significant humanitarian response operations;

12. *Requests* the United Nations to continue to strengthen its ability to recruit and deploy appropriately senior, skilled and experienced humanitarian staff quickly and flexibly, giving paramount consideration to the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, while paying due regard to gender equality and to recruiting on as wide a geographical basis as possible, and in this regard encourages the United Nations Sustainable Development Group to continue to strengthen the resident coordinator system, on which the humanitarian coordinator system is based, ensuring, inter alia, full implementation of the management and accountability system of the Group and the resident coordinator system;

13. *Recognizes* that diversity of humanitarian staff brings value to humanitarian work and understanding of developing countries' contexts, and requests the Secretary-General to address further the insufficient diversity in geographical representation and gender balance in the composition of the humanitarian staff of the Secretariat and other United Nations humanitarian agencies, in particular regarding professional and high-level staff, and to report on concrete measures taken in this regard in his annual report;

14. *Also recognizes* that accountability is an integral part of effective humanitarian assistance, and emphasizes the need for enhancing the accountability of humanitarian actors at all stages of humanitarian assistance;

15. *Urges* Member States to continue to give priority to efforts to prevent, respond to, investigate and prosecute acts of sexual and gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies, calls upon Member States and relevant organizations to improve coordination and strengthen capacity, to ensure that humanitarian relief integrates prevention of, and risk mitigation for, sexual and gender-based violence and makes greater use of sex- and age-disaggregated data and to strengthen support services for victims, survivors and others affected by such violence beginning in the earliest stages of emergency response, taking into account their unique and specific needs resulting from the impact of such violence, and notes the Call to Action initiative;

16. *Underscores* the critical importance of protecting all persons affected by humanitarian crises, in particular women and children, from any form of sexual exploitation and abuse, including those perpetrated by humanitarian personnel, welcomes the determination of the Secretary-General to fully implement the United Nations policy of zero tolerance for sexual exploitation and abuse and stresses that victims and survivors should be at the core of such efforts, notes the six core principles relating to sexual exploitation and abuse adopted by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee,<sup>435</sup> and encourages Member States to make greater efforts to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse and to ensure that perpetrators are held accountable;

17. *Urges* Member States to continue to seek to prevent, respond to, investigate and prosecute violations and abuses against children, including exploitation, in humanitarian emergencies, calls upon Member States and relevant organizations to strengthen support services for children affected by humanitarian emergencies, including those who have experienced violations and abuses, and calls for a more effective response in that regard, guided by the rights of the child;

18. *Reaffirms* the importance of implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030<sup>427</sup> to ensure the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihood and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries, and underlines the importance of tackling the underlying disaster risk drivers, of considering the impact of climate change and of integrating a disaster risk reduction perspective into humanitarian assistance to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk;

19. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations and relevant humanitarian and development organizations to continue to support multi-year investment, when possible, in preparedness, response and coordination capacities, and build the capacity at all levels of government, including local government, of organizations and of communities, particularly in communities exposed to disasters, to better prepare for hazards, reduce disaster risk and the risk of displacement within the context of disasters, build resilience and better respond to and recover from and build back better after disasters, and also calls upon all relevant stakeholders to complement, rather than substitute for or displace, national capacities to respond to crises, especially where those crises are prolonged or recurrent;

20. *Calls upon* Member States and the international community to provide adequate, sustainable and timely resources for disaster risk reduction in order to build resilience and reduce the risk of displacement within the context of disasters, environmental degradation and climate change, including through complementary humanitarian and development programming and the further strengthening of national and local capacities to prevent, prepare for and respond to humanitarian emergencies, and encourages closer cooperation between national stakeholders and humanitarian and development actors in this regard;

21. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations humanitarian system, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other humanitarian actors to reinforce preparedness and response capabilities in relation to those outbreaks of infectious disease that trigger or exacerbate a humanitarian crisis, including by fully implementing the International Health Regulations (2005),<sup>431</sup> and calls upon the United Nations humanitarian system and humanitarian organizations to respond rapidly, based on the level 3 activation procedure for infectious disease events in humanitarian contexts, in close coordination with affected States;

22. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations and other relevant organizations, as appropriate, to address non-communicable diseases and their risk factors and to treat people living with them in humanitarian emergencies;

23. *Encourages* closer cooperation between development and humanitarian actors, in coordination with Member States, to ensure that all relevant actors work together, in accordance with their mandates, towards common

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<sup>435</sup> A/57/465, annex I, para. 10 (a).

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results with the aim of reducing need, vulnerability and risk over multiple years, based on shared understanding of the context and each actor's operational strengths, in support of national priorities, while fully respecting the humanitarian principles for humanitarian action;

24. *Encourages* humanitarian and development actors to pursue, where appropriate, common risk-management and resilience objectives, achievable through joint analysis and multi-year programming and planning cycles;

25. *Encourages* the United Nations system, humanitarian organizations and development organizations to continue their efforts to mainstream preparedness, early action and early recovery into their programming, acknowledges that preparedness, early action and early recovery should receive further funding, and in this regard encourages the provision of timely, flexible, predictable and adequate resources, including from both humanitarian and development budgets, as appropriate;

26. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and other relevant organizations to take further steps to provide a coordinated emergency response to the food and nutrition needs of affected populations, while aiming to ensure that such steps are supportive of national strategies and programmes aimed at improving food security and nutrition;

27. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations, humanitarian and development organizations and other relevant actors to urgently and effectively respond to, prevent and prepare for rising global food insecurity affecting millions of people, especially those who are facing famine or the immediate risk of famine, including by enhancing humanitarian and development cooperation and providing urgent funding to respond to the needs of the affected population, and calls upon Member States and parties to armed conflicts to respect international humanitarian law and ensure safe and unhindered humanitarian access;

28. *Condemns* strongly the use of starvation of civilians as a method of warfare and prohibited by international humanitarian law;

29. *Expresses concern* about the challenges related to, inter alia, safe access to and use of fuel, firewood, alternative energy, water and sanitation, shelter and food and health-care services, including mental health and psychosocial services, in humanitarian emergencies, and notes with appreciation initiatives at the national and international levels, including those that systematically identify and integrate innovative approaches and share best practices, that promote effective cooperation in this regard;

30. *Encourages* the international community, including relevant United Nations organizations and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, to support efforts of Member States aimed at strengthening their capacity to prepare for and respond to disasters and to support efforts, as appropriate, to strengthen systems, especially early warning systems, for identifying and monitoring disaster risk, including vulnerability and natural hazards, and especially to substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard warning systems;

31. *Welcomes* the growing number of Member States and regional organizations that have taken steps to promote the implementation of the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance, encourages others to do so, as appropriate, and welcomes the valuable support that national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies are providing to their Governments in this area, in collaboration with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and other partners;

32. *Encourages* States to create an enabling environment for the capacity-building of local authorities and of national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in order to ensure better preparedness in providing timely, effective and predictable assistance, and encourages the United Nations and other relevant organizations to provide support to such efforts, including, as appropriate, under the Common Framework for Preparedness of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, the United Nations Sustainable Development Group and the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, through the transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms, and expertise to developing countries and through support to enhance the coordination capacities and build capacity in science and technology of affected States;

33. *Recognizes* the increase in the number and scale of disasters, including those related to the adverse effects of climate change, which in certain instances may contribute to displacement and to additional pressure on host communities, encourages Member States, the United Nations and relevant organizations and actors to further



strengthen the efforts aimed at addressing the needs of persons displaced within the context of disasters, including those induced by climate change, and notes in this regard the importance of sharing best practices to prevent and prepare for such displacements;

34. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to provide emergency assistance in ways that are supportive of recovery and long-term development, where appropriate, including through multi-year funding and prioritizing humanitarian tools that strengthen resilience, such as, but not limited to, cash-based transfers, local procurement of food and services, including for school feeding programmes, and social safety nets;

35. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to respond more effectively to needs in humanitarian contexts by, inter alia, scaling up social protection policies and cash-based transfer mechanisms, where feasible, including multipurpose cash programming, as appropriate, to offer affected people flexibility on how to meet their humanitarian needs, and to support the development of local markets and strengthen national and local capacities, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations humanitarian organizations to continue building their capacity to systematically consider cash-based transfer programming, alongside other forms of humanitarian assistance;

36. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant organizations to improve, where possible, fast and flexible financing for preparedness, early action, early response and early recovery, and in this regard encourages exploring, developing and, where appropriate, the strengthening of innovative and anticipatory mechanisms and approaches, such as forecast-based financing and disaster risk insurance, to reduce the impact of disasters and address humanitarian needs;

37. *Takes note* of the efforts of Member States, the United Nations system and the international community to strengthen preparedness and local, national and regional humanitarian response capacity, calls upon the United Nations and relevant partners to support capacity-building of Member States, and calls upon Member States to continue to provide funding to humanitarian country-based pooled funds;

38. *Encourages* Member States, and calls upon relevant humanitarian organizations, to work closely with national institutions, including local governments and the private sector, as appropriate, to examine effective, context-specific ways to be better prepared for, respond to and recover from increasing emergencies in urban areas, which may have an impact on the provision of such life-saving essential services as water, energy and health care;

39. *Reaffirms* the right to education for all and the importance of ensuring safe enabling learning environments in humanitarian emergencies, as well as quality education at all levels, including for girls, including technical and vocational training opportunities, where possible, including through adequate funding and infrastructural investments, for the well-being of all, in this regard recognizes that access to quality education in humanitarian emergencies can contribute to long-term development goals and reiterates the need to protect and respect educational facilities in accordance with international humanitarian law, strongly condemns all attacks directed against schools and the use of schools for military purposes, when in contravention of international humanitarian law, and encourages efforts to promote safe and protective school environments in humanitarian emergencies;

40. *Calls upon* the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and other United Nations organizations to continue to work with Member States and relevant United Nations entities to facilitate the exchange of updated, accurate and reliable information, including through mutually comprehensible, disaggregated and harmonized data, to ensure better assessment and analysis of needs in order to improve preparedness and humanitarian response;

41. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations organizations to support the improvement of the humanitarian programme cycle, including the development of coordinated and comprehensive needs assessment tools, such as multisector initial rapid assessments, the implementation of joint, impartial and timely needs assessments and prioritized needs-based humanitarian response plans, in consultation with the affected States, in order to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian action to meet the needs of people affected by humanitarian emergencies;

42. *Encourages* Member States to commit and to disburse in a timely fashion humanitarian funding based on, and in accordance with, the humanitarian appeals brought forward by the United Nations;

43. *Encourages* Member States and relevant United Nations organizations to explore innovative risk-sharing mechanisms and to base risk management funding on objective data;

44. *Encourages* United Nations and humanitarian organizations to further advance efficiencies in delivering assistance through reducing management costs, harmonizing partnership agreements, providing transparent and comparable cost structures, and strengthening measures to achieve greater accountability by taking further actions to reduce fraud, waste and abuse and identify ways to share incident reports and other information among United Nations agencies, where appropriate;

45. *Requests* Member States, relevant humanitarian organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian actors to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women in all stages of humanitarian response, to take measures to ensure the full participation of women, girls, men and boys, including persons with disabilities and older persons, in all stages of decision-making, as appropriate, in order to, inter alia, reduce gender inequalities and ensure that humanitarian assistance is informed, adapted, appropriate and effective, and to take into account the specific needs, vulnerabilities and capacities of women, girls, men and boys, taking into consideration age and disability, in the design of needs assessments and the implementation of all programming, including by seeking to ensure the provision of access to the full range of medical, legal and psychosocial and livelihood services, without discrimination, and in this regard encourages efforts to ensure gender mainstreaming, including in the collection and analysis of disaggregated data, in the analysis of allocations and programme implementation, and through greater use of the Gender with Age Marker;

46. *Recognizes* the important role that women can play as first responders, and encourages Member States, the United Nations and other relevant humanitarian organizations to support women's leadership and meaningful participation in the planning and implementation of response strategies, including by strengthening partnerships and building the capacities of national and local institutions, including national and local women's organizations, and other civil society actors, as appropriate;

47. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant humanitarian organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian actors to ensure non-discrimination and opportunities for persons with disabilities to participate on an equal basis with others in humanitarian preparedness and response;

48. *Calls upon* the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations, in coordination with Member States, to engage all people affected by disasters and crises, in particular those most at risk, including through communication, enabling their participation in relevant processes and supporting their efforts and capacities to meet their different needs, while taking into account, as appropriate, their culture, traditions and local customs;

49. *Calls upon* United Nations humanitarian organizations, in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen the evidence base for humanitarian assistance by further developing common mechanisms and methodologies for improving the quality, transparency, reliability, compatibility and comparability of common humanitarian needs assessments, needs data and analysis, including through improved collection, analysis and reporting of data disaggregated by sex, age and disability and taking into account environmental impact, to assess their performance in assistance and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by those organizations;

50. *Calls upon* the United Nations and its humanitarian partners to enhance accountability to Member States, including affected States, and all other stakeholders, including local governments, relevant local organizations and other actors, as well as affected populations, and to further strengthen humanitarian response efforts, including by monitoring and evaluating the provision of their humanitarian assistance, incorporating lessons learned into programming and consulting with the affected populations in the planning and implementation of humanitarian assistance, and making greater efforts in this regard, so that their needs are appropriately assessed and effectively addressed;

51. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to identify better ways of working to address the increasing capacity and resource gap, in order to effectively meet the needs of affected populations, including by harmonizing and, where possible, simplifying reporting requirements, increasing the flexibility of humanitarian funding, including through reduced earmarking and further minimizing the duplication of costs, and making more use of innovation in humanitarian response;

52. *Calls upon* donors to provide adequate, timely, predictable and flexible resources based on and in proportion to assessed needs and to mobilize support for addressing underfunded and forgotten emergencies, to consider providing early and multi-year commitments to pooled humanitarian funds, including the Central Emergency Response Fund and country-based pooled funds, and to continue to support diverse humanitarian funding channels,

encourages efforts to adhere to the Principles and Good Practice of Humanitarian Donorship<sup>436</sup> and to improve burden-sharing among donors, and in this respect encourages the private sector, civil society and other relevant entities to make relevant contributions, complementary to those of other sources;

53. *Welcomes* the important achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund in ensuring a more timely and predictable response to humanitarian emergencies, stresses the importance of continuing to improve the functioning of the Fund, and in this regard encourages the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to review and evaluate, where necessary, their partnership policies and practices in order to ensure the timely disbursement of funds from the Fund to implementing partners in order to ensure that resources are used in the most efficient, effective, accountable and transparent manner possible;

54. *Calls upon* all Member States, and invites the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions, to consider increasing their voluntary contributions to the Central Emergency Response Fund in order to achieve an annual funding level of 1 billion United States dollars and to continue to reinforce and strengthen the Fund as the global emergency response fund, and emphasizes the need to broaden and diversify the income base of the Fund and that contributions should be additional to current commitments to humanitarian programming and should not be to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development;

55. *Encourages* Member States, the private sector and all relevant individuals and institutions to consider increasing their voluntary contributions to country-based pooled funds and, as appropriate, other pooled funding mechanisms, to facilitate humanitarian assistance to people in need;

56. *Calls upon* Member States that are in a position to do so and development and humanitarian partners, in their efforts to provide flexible resources, to consider ways of better mainstreaming the need for preparedness and building resilience in the provision of humanitarian and development assistance, including reconstruction and rehabilitation, inter alia, with a view to ensuring smooth transition from relief to development;

57. *Calls upon* all Member States that are in a position to do so to increase their voluntary contributions to humanitarian emergencies, including through flexible, unearmarked and multi-year funding where possible, in this context reiterates that the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs should benefit from adequate and more predictable funding, and underscores the importance of adequate, timely and flexible voluntary funding for the Office to enable it to carry out its mandate;

58. *Encourages* Member States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations humanitarian organizations, to ensure that the basic humanitarian needs of affected populations, including clean water, food, shelter, health, including sexual and reproductive health, education and protection, energy and information and communications technologies, where possible, are addressed as components of humanitarian response, including through providing timely and adequate resources, while ensuring that their collaborative efforts fully adhere to humanitarian principles;

59. *Also encourages* Member States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations humanitarian organizations, to ensure that women and girls have access to basic health-care services, including reliable and safe access to sexual and reproductive health-care services and mental health and psychosocial support, from the onset of emergencies, in this regard recognizes that such assistance protects women, adolescent girls and infants from preventable mortality and morbidity that occur in humanitarian emergencies, and calls upon Member States, the United Nations and other relevant actors to give such programmes due consideration;

60. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to continue to work together to understand and address the different protection needs of affected populations, particularly the most vulnerable, in humanitarian crises and ensure that these needs are adequately integrated into preparedness, response and recovery efforts;

61. *Calls upon* Member States and relevant organizations and actors to recognize and address the consequences of humanitarian emergencies for migrants, in particular those in vulnerable situations, and to strengthen coordinated international efforts for their assistance and protection in concert with national authorities;

62. *Calls upon* Member States to take steps to ensure the international protection of and respect for the rights of refugees, including respect for the principle of non-refoulement and adequate standards of treatment in

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<sup>436</sup> [A/58/99-E/2003/94](#), annex II.

accordance with international law, including, as applicable, the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees<sup>437</sup> and international human rights obligations;

63. *Recognizes* the importance of early registration and effective registration systems as a tool of protection and as a means of carrying out the quantification and assessment of needs for the provision and distribution of humanitarian assistance, notes the many and diverse challenges faced by refugees who remain without any form of documentation attesting to their status, and underlines the importance of increasing accountability to ensure that humanitarian assistance reaches its beneficiaries;

64. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all States and parties to an armed conflict to protect civilians, in accordance with international humanitarian law, encourages States that are parties to an armed conflict to take all measures necessary to enhance the protection of civilians, and invites all States to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of women, girls, boys and men, older persons and persons with disabilities;

65. *Urges* Member States to continue to take the steps necessary to ensure the protection of the wounded and sick, as well as the safety and security of medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their facilities, equipment, transports and supplies, including by developing effective measures to prevent and address acts of violence, attacks and threats against them, and in this regard reaffirms the need for States to ensure that those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law do not operate with impunity, urges States to conduct full, prompt, impartial and effective investigations within their jurisdiction of violations of international humanitarian law with a view to ensuring accountability, as provided for by national laws and obligations under international law, and to ensure that the wounded and sick receive, to the fullest extent practicable and with the least possible delay, the medical care and attention required, and notes the applicable rules of international humanitarian law relating to the non-punishment of any person for carrying out medical activities compatible with medical ethics;

66. *Also urges* Member States to continue to take the steps necessary to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, their facilities, equipment, transports and supplies, including by developing effective measures to prevent and address acts of violence, attacks and threats against them, requests the Secretary-General to expedite his efforts to enhance the safety and security of personnel involved in United Nations humanitarian operations, and in this regard reaffirms the need for States to ensure that those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law do not operate with impunity, urges States to conduct, full, prompt, impartial and effective investigations within their jurisdiction of violations of international humanitarian law with a view to ensuring accountability, as provided for by national laws and obligations under international law, and urges Member States to scale up their efforts to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel;

67. *Emphasizes* the responsibility of States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to acts of violence committed against civilian populations in armed conflicts and to comply with the relevant obligations under international law to end impunity and to ensure that those responsible for violations are promptly brought to justice, in accordance with national law and their obligations under international law;

68. *Calls upon* all States and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflict and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel, as well as the delivery of supplies and equipment, in order to allow such personnel to efficiently perform their task of assisting affected civilian populations, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

69. *Urges* States, while undertaking counter-terrorism activities, to respect their international obligations, including whenever international humanitarian law is applicable, in particular regarding the provision of humanitarian assistance to civilian populations, as well as recognizes the key role humanitarian organizations play in the provision of principled humanitarian assistance, while also recognizing the importance of preventing and suppressing the financing of and other forms of support to terrorism;

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<sup>437</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

70. *Recognizes* the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement<sup>438</sup> as an important international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons, and that forced displacement is not only a humanitarian but also a development challenge, encourages Member States and humanitarian agencies to continue to work together, in collaboration with host communities, in endeavours to provide a more predictable response to the needs of internally displaced persons and in particular to address the long-term nature of displacement by adopting and implementing long-term strategies and coherent multi-year planning, including in relation to issues such as livelihoods, and in this regard calls for continued and enhanced international support, upon request, for the capacity-building efforts of States and encourages humanitarian organizations to improve coordination, including with development organizations, to better address the needs of internally displaced persons in support of Member States to promote durable solutions;

71. *Welcomes* the progress made towards further enhancing the security management system of the United Nations, and supports the approach taken by the Secretary-General to focus the efforts of the security management system on enabling the United Nations system to “stay and deliver” its most critical programmes even in high-risk environments by effectively managing the risks to which personnel are exposed, including in the provision of humanitarian assistance, and to adapt quickly to changes in local security conditions;

72. *Encourages* the United Nations and other relevant humanitarian actors to include, as part of their risk management strategy, the building of good relations and trust with national and local governments and to promote acceptance by local communities and all relevant actors, including religious leaders where appropriate, in order to enable humanitarian assistance to be provided in accordance with humanitarian principles;

73. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on actions taken to enable the United Nations to continue to strengthen its ability to recruit and deploy staff quickly, effectively and flexibly, to procure emergency relief materials and services rapidly, cost-effectively and locally, where applicable, and to quickly disburse funds in order to support Governments and United Nations country teams in the coordination of international humanitarian assistance;

74. *Takes note* of the World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016, and also takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the World Humanitarian Summit;<sup>439</sup>

75. *Urges* all countries to integrate into their respective national policies and development frameworks the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>440</sup> and urges Member States, the United Nations and relevant stakeholders to work together to reduce the needs and build the resilience of the most vulnerable in order to contribute to the achievement of the Goals included in the 2030 Agenda, including the call to leave no one behind;

76. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council at its 2019 session, on progress made in strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, and to submit a report to the Assembly on the detailed use of the Central Emergency Response Fund.

### **RESOLUTION 73/193**

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Credentials Committee ([A/73/600](#))

#### **73/193. Credentials of representatives to the seventy-third session of the General Assembly**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Credentials Committee<sup>441</sup> and the recommendation contained therein,

*Approves* the report of the Credentials Committee.<sup>441</sup>

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<sup>438</sup> [E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2](#), annex.

<sup>439</sup> [A/71/353](#).

<sup>440</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>441</sup> [A/73/600](#).

## RESOLUTION 73/194

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, by a recorded vote of 66 to 19, with 72 abstentions,\* on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.47](#) and [A/73/L.47/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

\* *In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu

*Against:* Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cambodia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Serbia, South Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

*Abstaining:* Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Guinea, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen

### **73/194. Problem of the militarization of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, as well as parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Charter of the United Nations, which states, inter alia, that all Members of the United Nations shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations,

*Recalling also* its resolution [68/262](#) of 27 March 2014 on the territorial integrity of Ukraine, in which it affirmed its commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders,

*Recalling further* its resolutions [71/205](#) and [72/190](#) on the situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, of 19 December 2016 and 19 December 2017, respectively,

*Condemning* the ongoing temporary occupation of part of the territory of Ukraine, namely, the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol (hereinafter referred to as "Crimea"), by the Russian Federation, and reaffirming the non-recognition of its annexation,

*Recalling* that the temporary occupation of Crimea and the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of Ukraine by the Russian Federation is in contravention of commitments made under the Memorandum on Security Assurances in Connection with Ukraine's Accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (Budapest Memorandum) of 5 December 1994,<sup>442</sup> in which, inter alia, the commitment to respect the independence and sovereignty and the existing borders of Ukraine was reaffirmed,

*Supporting* the commitment by Ukraine to adhere to international law in its efforts to put an end to the temporary Russian occupation of Crimea,

1. *Stresses* that the presence of Russian troops in Crimea is contrary to the national sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine and undermines the security and stability of neighbouring countries and the European region;

<sup>442</sup> [A/49/765](#), annex I.



## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

2. *Expresses its grave concern* over the progressive militarization of Crimea by the Russian Federation as the occupying Power, and also expresses concern over reports of the continuing destabilization of Crimea owing to transfers by the Russian Federation of weapon systems, including nuclear-capable aircraft and missiles, weapons, ammunition and military personnel to the territory of Ukraine, and urges the Russian Federation to stop such activity;
3. *Expresses its concern* regarding multiple military exercises of Russian armed forces held in Crimea, which can undermine regional security and entail considerable long-term negative environmental consequences in the region;
4. *Also expresses its concern* over the Russian Federation's ongoing actions in parts of the Black Sea surrounding Crimea and the Sea of Azov, including their militarization, which pose further threats to Ukraine and undermine the stability of the broader region;
5. *Expresses its utmost concern* about the dangerous increase in tensions and the unjustified use of force by the Russian Federation against Ukraine, including against three vessels of the naval forces of Ukraine, namely, the *Berdyansk*, the *Nikopol* and the tugboat *Yana Kapu*, on 25 November 2018 in the Black Sea, as well as the serious wounding of some of their crew members, calls upon the Russian Federation to release the vessels and their crews and equipment unconditionally and without delay, and also calls for the utmost restraint to de-escalate the situation immediately;
6. *Calls upon* the Russian Federation to refrain from impeding the lawful exercise of navigational rights and freedoms in the Black Sea, the Sea of Azov and the Kerch Strait in accordance with applicable international law, in particular provisions of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;<sup>443</sup>
7. *Condemns* the Russian Federation's construction and opening of the Kerch Strait bridge between the Russian Federation and temporarily occupied Crimea, which facilitates the further militarization of Crimea, and also condemns the increasing military presence of the Russian Federation in parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, including the Kerch Strait, and the Russian Federation's harassment of commercial vessels and restriction of international shipping there;
8. *Urges* the Russian Federation, as the occupying Power, to withdraw its military forces from Crimea and to end its temporary occupation of Ukraine's territory without delay;
9. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the matter at its seventy-fourth session.

### RESOLUTION 73/195

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2018, by a recorded vote of 152 to 5, with 12 abstentions,\* on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.66](#), as orally revised, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

\* *In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Czechia, Hungary, Israel, Poland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Chile, Italy, Latvia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Romania, Singapore, Switzerland

<sup>443</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

### 73/195. Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

*The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolution 71/1 of 19 September 2016, in which it decided to convene an intergovernmental conference to adopt a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration, as well as its resolutions 71/280 of 6 April 2017, 72/244 of 24 December 2017 and 72/308 of 6 August 2018,

1. Expresses its profound gratitude to the Government and the people of Morocco for hosting the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, held in Marrakech on 10 and 11 December 2018, and for providing all the necessary support;
2. Endorses the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration adopted by the Intergovernmental Conference as contained in the annex to the present resolution, and which will also be known as the Marrakech Compact on Migration.

#### Annex

#### Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

We, the Heads of State and Government and High Representatives, meeting in Morocco on 10 and 11 December 2018, reaffirming the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants<sup>444</sup> and determined to make an important contribution to enhanced cooperation on international migration in all its dimensions, have adopted this Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration:

#### Preamble

1. This Global Compact rests on the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.
2. It also rests on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;<sup>445</sup> the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;<sup>446</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;<sup>446</sup> the other core international human rights treaties;<sup>447</sup> the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>448</sup> including the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,<sup>449</sup> and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air;<sup>450</sup> the Slavery Convention<sup>451</sup> and the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery;<sup>452</sup> the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;<sup>453</sup> the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;<sup>454</sup> the Paris Agreement;<sup>455</sup> and the International Labour Organization conventions on promoting decent work and labour migration,<sup>456</sup> as well as on

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<sup>444</sup> Resolution 71/1.

<sup>445</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>446</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>447</sup> International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, Convention on the Rights of the Child, International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

<sup>448</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

<sup>449</sup> Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

<sup>450</sup> Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.

<sup>451</sup> League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. LX, No. 1414.

<sup>452</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 266, No. 3822.

<sup>453</sup> Ibid., vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>454</sup> Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

<sup>455</sup> Adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>456</sup> Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97), Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143), Equality of Treatment (Social Security) Convention, 1962 (No. 118), and Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189).

the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>457</sup> the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;<sup>458</sup> the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;<sup>459</sup> and the New Urban Agenda.<sup>460</sup>

3. Discussions about international migration at the global level are not new. We recall the advances made through the United Nations High-level Dialogues on International Migration and Development in 2006 and 2013. We also acknowledge the contributions of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, launched in 2007. These platforms paved the way for the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, through which we committed to elaborate a global compact on refugees and to adopt this Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, in two separate processes. The two global compacts, together, present complementary international cooperation frameworks that fulfil their respective mandates as laid out in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, which recognizes that migrants and refugees may face many common challenges and similar vulnerabilities.

4. Refugees and migrants are entitled to the same universal human rights and fundamental freedoms, which must be respected, protected and fulfilled at all times. However, migrants and refugees are distinct groups governed by separate legal frameworks. Only refugees are entitled to the specific international protection defined by international refugee law. This Global Compact refers to migrants and presents a cooperative framework addressing migration in all its dimensions.

5. As a contribution to the preparatory process for this Global Compact, we recognize the inputs shared by Member States and relevant stakeholders during the consultation and stocktaking phases, as well as the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Making migration work for all”.<sup>461</sup>

6. This Global Compact is a milestone in the history of the global dialogue and international cooperation on migration. It is rooted in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and informed by the Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, adopted in October 2013.<sup>462</sup> It builds on the pioneering work of the former Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Migration, including his report of 3 February 2017.<sup>463</sup>

7. This Global Compact presents a non-legally binding, cooperative framework that builds on the commitments agreed upon by Member States in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants. It fosters international cooperation among all relevant actors on migration, acknowledging that no State can address migration alone, and upholds the sovereignty of States and their obligations under international law.

### **Our vision and guiding principles**

8. This Global Compact expresses our collective commitment to improving cooperation on international migration. Migration has been part of the human experience throughout history, and we recognize that it is a source of prosperity, innovation and sustainable development in our globalized world, and that these positive impacts can be optimized by improving migration governance. The majority of migrants around the world today travel, live and work in a safe, orderly and regular manner. Nonetheless, migration undeniably affects our countries, communities, migrants and their families in very different and sometimes unpredictable ways.

9. It is crucial that the challenges and opportunities of international migration unite us, rather than divide us. This Global Compact sets out our common understanding, shared responsibilities and unity of purpose regarding migration, making it work for all.

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<sup>457</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>458</sup> Resolution 69/313, annex.

<sup>459</sup> Resolution 69/283, annex II.

<sup>460</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

<sup>461</sup> A/72/643.

<sup>462</sup> Resolution 68/4.

<sup>463</sup> See A/71/728.

### Common understanding

10. This Global Compact is the product of an unprecedented review of evidence and data gathered during an open, transparent and inclusive process. We shared our realities and heard diverse voices, enriching and shaping our common understanding of this complex phenomenon. We learned that migration is a defining feature of our globalized world, connecting societies within and across all regions, making us all countries of origin, transit and destination. We recognize that there is a continuous need for international efforts to strengthen our knowledge and analysis of migration, as shared understandings will improve policies that unlock the potential of sustainable development for all. We must collect and disseminate quality data. We must ensure that current and potential migrants are fully informed about their rights, obligations and options for safe, orderly and regular migration, and are aware of the risks of irregular migration. We also must provide all our citizens with access to objective, evidence-based, clear information about the benefits and challenges of migration, with a view to dispelling misleading narratives that generate negative perceptions of migrants.

### Shared responsibilities

11. This Global Compact offers a 360-degree vision of international migration and recognizes that a comprehensive approach is needed to optimize the overall benefits of migration, while addressing risks and challenges for individuals and communities in countries of origin, transit and destination. No country can address the challenges and opportunities of this global phenomenon on its own. With this comprehensive approach, we aim to facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration, while reducing the incidence and negative impact of irregular migration through international cooperation and a combination of measures put forward in this Global Compact. We acknowledge our shared responsibilities to one another as States Members of the United Nations to address each other's needs and concerns over migration, and an overarching obligation to respect, protect and fulfil the human rights of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, while promoting the security and prosperity of all our communities.

12. This Global Compact aims to mitigate the adverse drivers and structural factors that hinder people from building and maintaining sustainable livelihoods in their countries of origin, and so compel them to seek a future elsewhere. It intends to reduce the risks and vulnerabilities migrants face at different stages of migration by respecting, protecting and fulfilling their human rights and providing them with care and assistance. It seeks to address legitimate concerns of communities, while recognizing that societies are undergoing demographic, economic, social and environmental changes at different scales that may have implications for and result from migration. It strives to create conducive conditions that enable all migrants to enrich our societies through their human, economic and social capacities, and thus facilitate their contributions to sustainable development at the local, national, regional and global levels.

### Unity of purpose

13. This Global Compact recognizes that safe, orderly and regular migration works for all when it takes place in a well-informed, planned and consensual manner. Migration should never be an act of desperation. When it is, we must cooperate to respond to the needs of migrants in situations of vulnerability, and address the respective challenges. We must work together to create conditions that allow communities and individuals to live in safety and dignity in their own countries. We must save lives and keep migrants out of harm's way. We must empower migrants to become full members of our societies, highlight their positive contributions, and promote inclusion and social cohesion. We must generate greater predictability and certainty for States, communities and migrants alike. To achieve this, we commit to facilitate and ensure safe, orderly and regular migration for the benefit of all.

14. Our success rests on the mutual trust, determination and solidarity of States to fulfil the objectives and commitments contained in this Global Compact. We unite, in a spirit of win-win cooperation, to address the challenges and opportunities of migration in all its dimensions through shared responsibility and innovative solutions. It is with this sense of common purpose that we take this historic step, fully aware that the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration is a milestone, but not the end to our efforts. We commit to continue the multilateral dialogue at the United Nations through a periodic and effective follow-up and review mechanism, ensuring that the words in this document translate into concrete actions for the benefit of millions of people in every region of the world.

15. We agree that this Global Compact is based on a set of cross-cutting and interdependent guiding principles:

(a) *People-centred.* The Global Compact carries a strong human dimension, inherent to the migration experience itself. It promotes the well-being of migrants and the members of communities in countries of origin, transit and destination. As a result, the Global Compact places individuals at its core;

(b) *International cooperation.* The Global Compact is a non-legally binding cooperative framework that recognizes that no State can address migration on its own because of the inherently transnational nature of the phenomenon. It requires international, regional and bilateral cooperation and dialogue. Its authority rests on its consensual nature, credibility, collective ownership, joint implementation, follow-up and review;

(c) *National sovereignty.* The Global Compact reaffirms the sovereign right of States to determine their national migration policy and their prerogative to govern migration within their jurisdiction, in conformity with international law. Within their sovereign jurisdiction, States may distinguish between regular and irregular migration status, including as they determine their legislative and policy measures for the implementation of the Global Compact, taking into account different national realities, policies, priorities and requirements for entry, residence and work, in accordance with international law;

(d) *Rule of law and due process.* The Global Compact recognizes that respect for the rule of law, due process and access to justice are fundamental to all aspects of migration governance. This means that the State, public and private institutions and entities, as well as persons themselves, are accountable to laws that are publicly promulgated, equally enforced and independently adjudicated, and are consistent with international law;

(e) *Sustainable development.* The Global Compact is rooted in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and builds upon its recognition that migration is a multidimensional reality of major relevance for the sustainable development of countries of origin, transit and destination, which requires coherent and comprehensive responses. Migration contributes to positive development outcomes and to realizing the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially when it is properly managed. The Global Compact aims to leverage the potential of migration for the achievement of all Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the impact this achievement will have on migration in the future;

(f) *Human rights.* The Global Compact is based on international human rights law and upholds the principles of non-regression and non-discrimination. By implementing the Global Compact, we ensure effective respect for and protection and fulfilment of the human rights of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, across all stages of the migration cycle. We also reaffirm the commitment to eliminate all forms of discrimination, including racism, xenophobia and intolerance, against migrants and their families;

(g) *Gender-responsive.* The Global Compact ensures that the human rights of women, men, girls and boys are respected at all stages of migration, that their specific needs are properly understood and addressed and that they are empowered as agents of change. It mainstreams a gender perspective and promotes gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, recognizing their independence, agency and leadership in order to move away from addressing migrant women primarily through a lens of victimhood;

(h) *Child-sensitive.* The Global Compact promotes existing international legal obligations in relation to the rights of the child, and upholds the principle of the best interests of the child at all times, as a primary consideration in all situations concerning children in the context of international migration, including unaccompanied and separated children;

(i) *Whole-of-government approach.* The Global Compact considers that migration is a multidimensional reality that cannot be addressed by one government policy sector alone. To develop and implement effective migration policies and practices, a whole-of-government approach is needed to ensure horizontal and vertical policy coherence across all sectors and levels of government;

(j) *Whole-of-society approach.* The Global Compact promotes broad multi-stakeholder partnerships to address migration in all its dimensions by including migrants, diasporas, local communities, civil society, academia, the private sector, parliamentarians, trade unions, national human rights institutions, the media and other relevant stakeholders in migration governance.

### **Our cooperative framework**

16. With the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, we adopted a political declaration and a set of commitments. Reaffirming that Declaration in its entirety, we build upon it by laying out the following cooperative framework, comprising 23 objectives, implementation, as well as follow-up and review. Each objective contains a commitment, followed by a range of actions considered to be relevant policy instruments and best practices. To fulfil the 23 objectives, we will draw from these actions to achieve safe, orderly and regular migration along the migration cycle.

**Objectives for safe, orderly and regular migration**

1. Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies
2. Minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin
3. Provide accurate and timely information at all stages of migration
4. Ensure that all migrants have proof of legal identity and adequate documentation
5. Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration
6. Facilitate fair and ethical recruitment and safeguard conditions that ensure decent work
7. Address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration
8. Save lives and establish coordinated international efforts on missing migrants
9. Strengthen the transnational response to smuggling of migrants
10. Prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration
11. Manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner
12. Strengthen certainty and predictability in migration procedures for appropriate screening, assessment and referral
13. Use migration detention only as a measure of last resort and work towards alternatives
14. Enhance consular protection, assistance and cooperation throughout the migration cycle
15. Provide access to basic services for migrants
16. Empower migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion
17. Eliminate all forms of discrimination and promote evidence-based public discourse to shape perceptions of migration
18. Invest in skills development and facilitate mutual recognition of skills, qualifications and competences
19. Create conditions for migrants and diasporas to fully contribute to sustainable development in all countries
20. Promote faster, safer and cheaper transfer of remittances and foster financial inclusion of migrants
21. Cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration
22. Establish mechanisms for the portability of social security entitlements and earned benefits
23. Strengthen international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration

**Objectives and commitments**

**Objective 1: Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies**

17. We commit to strengthen the global evidence base on international migration by improving and investing in the collection, analysis and dissemination of accurate, reliable and comparable data, disaggregated by sex, age, migration status and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, while upholding the right to privacy under international human rights law and protecting personal data. We further commit to ensure that this data fosters research, guides coherent and evidence-based policymaking and well-informed public discourse, and allows for effective monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of commitments over time.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Elaborate and implement a comprehensive strategy for improving migration data at the local, national, regional and global levels, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, under the guidance of the Statistical Commission of the United Nations, by harmonizing methodologies for data collection, and strengthening analysis and dissemination of migration-related data and indicators;



(b) Improve international comparability and compatibility of migration statistics and national data systems, including by further developing and applying the statistical definition of an international migrant, elaborating a set of standards to measure migrant stocks and flows, and documenting migration patterns and trends, characteristics of migrants, as well as drivers and impacts of migration;

(c) Develop a global programme to build and enhance national capacities in data collection, analysis and dissemination to share data, address data gaps and assess key migration trends, that encourages collaboration between relevant stakeholders at all levels, provides dedicated training, financial support and technical assistance, leverages new data sources, including big data, and is reviewed by the Statistical Commission on a regular basis;

(d) Collect, analyse and use data on the effects and benefits of migration, as well as the contributions of migrants and diasporas to sustainable development, with a view to informing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and related strategies and programmes at the local, national, regional and global levels;

(e) Support further development of and collaboration between existing global and regional databases and depositories, including the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Global Migration Data Portal and the World Bank Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development, with a view to systematically consolidating relevant data in a transparent and user-friendly manner, while encouraging inter-agency collaboration to avoid duplication;

(f) Establish and strengthen regional centres for research and training on migration or migration observatories, such as the African Observatory for Migration and Development, to collect and analyse data in line with United Nations standards, including on best practices, the contributions of migrants, the overall economic, social and political benefits and challenges of migration in countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as drivers of migration, with a view to establishing shared strategies and maximizing the value of disaggregated migration data, in coordination with existing regional and subregional mechanisms;

(g) Improve national data collection by integrating migration-related topics into national censuses, as early as practicable, such as on country of birth, country of birth of parents, country of citizenship, country of residence five years prior to the census, most recent arrival date and reason for migrating, to ensure timely analysis and dissemination of results, disaggregated and tabulated in accordance with international standards, for statistical purposes;

(h) Conduct household, labour force and other surveys to collect information on the social and economic integration of migrants or add standard migration modules to existing household surveys to improve national, regional and international comparability, and make collected data available through public use of statistical microdata files;

(i) Enhance collaboration between State units responsible for migration data and national statistical offices to produce migration-related statistics, including by using administrative records for statistical purposes, such as border records, visas, resident permits, population registers and other relevant sources, while upholding the right to privacy and protecting personal data;

(j) Develop and use country-specific migration profiles, which include disaggregated data on all migration-relevant aspects in a national context, including those on labour market needs, demand for and availability of skills, the economic, environmental and social impacts of migration, remittance transfer costs, health, education, occupation, living and working conditions, wages, and the needs of migrants and receiving communities, in order to develop evidence-based migration policies;

(k) Cooperate with relevant stakeholders in countries of origin, transit and destination to develop research, studies and surveys on the interrelationship between migration and the three dimensions of sustainable development, the contributions and skills of migrants and diasporas, as well as their ties to the countries of origin and destination.

**Objective 2: Minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin**

18. We commit to create conducive political, economic, social and environmental conditions for people to lead peaceful, productive and sustainable lives in their own country and to fulfil their personal aspirations, while ensuring that desperation and deteriorating environments do not compel them to seek a livelihood elsewhere through irregular migration. We further commit to ensure timely and full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as to build upon and invest in the implementation of other existing frameworks, in order to enhance the overall impact of the Global Compact to facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Promote the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and the commitment to reach the furthest behind first, as well as the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;

(b) Invest in programmes that accelerate States' fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals with the aim of eliminating the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin, including through poverty eradication, food security, health and sanitation, education, inclusive economic growth, infrastructure, urban and rural development, employment creation, decent work, gender equality and empowerment of women and girls, resilience and disaster risk reduction, climate change mitigation and adaptation, addressing the socioeconomic effects of all forms of violence, non-discrimination, the rule of law and good governance, access to justice and protection of human rights, as well as creating and maintaining peaceful and inclusive societies with effective, accountable and transparent institutions;

(c) Establish or strengthen mechanisms to monitor and anticipate the development of risks and threats that might trigger or affect migration movements, strengthen early warning systems, develop emergency procedures and toolkits, launch emergency operations and support post-emergency recovery, in close cooperation with and in support of other States, relevant national and local authorities, national human rights institutions and civil society;

(d) Invest in sustainable development at the local and national levels in all regions, allowing all people to improve their lives and meet their aspirations, by fostering sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, including through private and foreign direct investment and trade preferences, to create conducive conditions that allow communities and individuals to take advantage of opportunities in their own countries and drive sustainable development;

(e) Invest in human capital development by promoting entrepreneurship, education, vocational training and skills development programmes and partnerships, productive employment creation, in line with labour market needs, as well as in cooperation with the private sector and trade unions, with a view to reducing youth unemployment, avoiding brain drain and optimizing brain gain in countries of origin, and harnessing the demographic dividend;

(f) Strengthen collaboration between humanitarian and development actors, including by promoting joint analysis, multi-donor approaches and multi-year funding cycles, in order to develop long-term responses and outcomes that ensure respect for the rights of affected individuals, resilience and coping capacities of populations, as well as economic and social self-reliance, and by ensuring that these efforts take migration into account;

(g) Account for migrants in national emergency preparedness and response, including by taking into consideration relevant recommendations from State-led consultative processes, such as the Guidelines to Protect Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflict or Natural Disaster (Migrants in Countries in Crisis Initiative Guidelines);

### **Natural disasters, the adverse effects of climate change, and environmental degradation**

(h) Strengthen joint analysis and sharing of information to better map, understand, predict and address migration movements, such as those that may result from sudden-onset and slow-onset natural disasters, the adverse effects of climate change, environmental degradation, as well as other precarious situations, while ensuring effective respect for and protection and fulfilment of the human rights of all migrants;

(i) Develop adaptation and resilience strategies to sudden-onset and slow-onset natural disasters, the adverse effects of climate change, and environmental degradation, such as desertification, land degradation, drought and sea level rise, taking into account the potential implications for migration, while recognizing that adaptation in the country of origin is a priority;

(j) Integrate displacement considerations into disaster preparedness strategies and promote cooperation with neighbouring and other relevant countries to prepare for early warning, contingency planning, stockpiling, coordination mechanisms, evacuation planning, reception and assistance arrangements, and public information;

(k) Harmonize and develop approaches and mechanisms at the subregional and regional levels to address the vulnerabilities of persons affected by sudden-onset and slow-onset natural disasters, by ensuring that they have access to humanitarian assistance that meets their essential needs with full respect for their rights wherever they are, and by promoting sustainable outcomes that increase resilience and self-reliance, taking into account the capacities of all countries involved;

(l) Develop coherent approaches to address the challenges of migration movements in the context of sudden-onset and slow-onset natural disasters, including by taking into consideration relevant recommendations from State-led consultative processes, such as the Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change, and the Platform on Disaster Displacement.

**Objective 3: Provide accurate and timely information at all stages of migration**

19. We commit to strengthen our efforts to provide, make available and disseminate accurate, timely, accessible and transparent information on migration-related aspects for and between States, communities and migrants at all stages of migration. We further commit to use this information to develop migration policies that provide a high degree of predictability and certainty for all actors involved.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Launch and publicize a centralized and publicly accessible national website to make information available on regular migration options, such as on country-specific immigration laws and policies, visa requirements, application formalities, fees and conversion criteria, employment permit requirements, professional qualification requirements, credential assessment and equivalences, training and study opportunities, and living costs and conditions, in order to inform the decisions of migrants;

(b) Promote and improve systematic bilateral, regional and international cooperation and dialogue to exchange information on migration-related trends, including through joint databases, online platforms, international training centres and liaison networks, while upholding the right to privacy and protecting personal data;

(c) Establish open and accessible information points along relevant migration routes that can refer migrants to child-sensitive and gender-responsive support and counselling, offer opportunities to communicate with consular representatives of the country of origin, and make available relevant information, including on human rights and fundamental freedoms, appropriate protection and assistance, options and pathways for regular migration, and possibilities for return, in a language that the person concerned understands;

(d) Provide newly arrived migrants with targeted, gender-responsive, child-sensitive, accessible and comprehensive information and legal guidance on their rights and obligations, including on compliance with national and local laws, obtaining of work and resident permits, status adjustments, registration with authorities, access to justice to file complaints about rights violations, as well as access to basic services;

(e) Promote multilingual, gender-responsive and evidence-based information campaigns and organize awareness-raising events and pre-departure orientation training in countries of origin, in cooperation with local authorities, consular and diplomatic missions, the private sector, academia, migrant and diaspora organizations and civil society, in order to promote safe, orderly and regular migration, as well as to highlight the risks associated with irregular and unsafe migration.

**Objective 4: Ensure that all migrants have proof of legal identity and adequate documentation**

20. We commit to fulfil the right of all individuals to a legal identity by providing all our nationals with proof of nationality and relevant documentation, allowing national and local authorities to ascertain a migrant's legal identity upon entry, during stay and for return, as well as to ensure effective migration procedures, efficient service provision and improved public safety. We further commit to ensure, through appropriate measures, that migrants are issued adequate documentation and civil registry documents, such as birth, marriage and death certificates, at all stages of migration, as a means to empower migrants to effectively exercise their human rights.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Improve civil registry systems, with a particular focus on reaching unregistered persons and our nationals residing in other countries, including by providing relevant identity and civil registry documents, strengthening capacities, and investing in information and communications technology solutions, while upholding the right to privacy and protecting personal data;

(b) Harmonize travel documents in line with the specifications of the International Civil Aviation Organization to facilitate interoperable and universal recognition of travel documents, as well as to combat identity fraud and document forgery, including by investing in digitalization, and strengthening mechanisms for biometric data-sharing, while upholding the right to privacy and protecting personal data;

(c) Ensure adequate, timely, reliable and accessible consular documentation to our nationals residing in other countries, including identity and travel documents, making use of information and communications technology, as well as community outreach, particularly in remote areas;

(d) Facilitate access to personal documentation, such as passports and visas, and ensure that relevant regulations and criteria for obtaining such documentation are non-discriminatory, by undertaking a gender-responsive and age-sensitive review in order to prevent increased risk of vulnerabilities throughout the migration cycle;

(e) Strengthen measures to reduce statelessness, including by registering migrants' births, ensuring that women and men can equally confer their nationality on their children, and providing nationality to children born in another State's territory, especially in situations where a child would otherwise be stateless, fully respecting the human right to a nationality and in accordance with national legislation;

(f) Review and revise requirements to prove nationality at service delivery centres to ensure that migrants without proof of nationality or legal identity are not precluded from accessing basic services nor denied their human rights;

(g) Build upon existing practices at the local level that facilitate participation in community life, such as interaction with authorities and access to relevant services, through the issuance of registration cards to all persons living in a municipality, including migrants, that contain basic personal information, while not constituting entitlements to citizenship or residency.

**Objective 5: Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration**

21. We commit to adapt options and pathways for regular migration in a manner that facilitates labour mobility and decent work reflecting demographic and labour market realities, optimizes education opportunities, upholds the right to family life, and responds to the needs of migrants in a situation of vulnerability, with a view to expanding and diversifying availability of pathways for safe, orderly and regular migration.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Develop human rights-based and gender-responsive bilateral, regional and multilateral labour mobility agreements with sector-specific standard terms of employment in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, drawing on relevant International Labour Organization (ILO) standards, guidelines and principles, in compliance with international human rights and labour law;

(b) Facilitate regional and cross-regional labour mobility through international and bilateral cooperation arrangements, such as free movement regimes, visa liberalization or multiple-country visas, and labour mobility cooperation frameworks, in accordance with national priorities, local market needs and skills supply;

(c) Review and revise existing options and pathways for regular migration, with a view to optimizing skills-matching in labour markets and addressing demographic realities and development challenges and opportunities, in accordance with local and national labour market demands and skills supply, in consultation with the private sector and other relevant stakeholders;

(d) Develop flexible, rights-based and gender-responsive labour mobility schemes for migrants, in accordance with local and national labour market needs and skills supply at all skills levels, including temporary, seasonal, circular and fast-track programmes in areas of labour shortages, by providing flexible, convertible and non-discriminatory visa and permit options, such as for permanent and temporary work, multiple-entry study, business, visit, investment and entrepreneurship;

(e) Promote effective skills-matching in the national economy by involving local authorities and other relevant stakeholders, particularly the private sector and trade unions, in the analysis of the local labour market, identification of skills gaps, definition of required skills profiles, and evaluation of the efficacy of labour migration policies, in order to ensure market-responsive contractual labour mobility through regular pathways;

(f) Foster efficient and effective skills-matching programmes by reducing visa and permit processing time frames for standard employment authorizations, and by offering accelerated and facilitated visa and permit processing for employers with a track record of compliance;

(g) Develop or build on existing national and regional practices for admission and stay of appropriate duration based on compassionate, humanitarian or other considerations for migrants compelled to leave their countries of origin owing to sudden-onset natural disasters and other precarious situations, such as by providing humanitarian visas, private sponsorships, access to education for children, and temporary work permits, while adaptation in or return to their country of origin is not possible;

(h) Cooperate to identify, develop and strengthen solutions for migrants compelled to leave their countries of origin owing to slow-onset natural disasters, the adverse effects of climate change, and environmental degradation, such as desertification, land degradation, drought and sea level rise, including by devising planned relocation and visa options, in cases where adaptation in or return to their country of origin is not possible;

(i) Facilitate access to procedures for family reunification for migrants at all skills levels through appropriate measures that promote the realization of the right to family life and the best interests of the child, including by reviewing and revising applicable requirements, such as on income, language proficiency, length of stay, work authorization, and access to social security and services;

(j) Expand available options for academic mobility, including through bilateral and multilateral agreements that facilitate academic exchanges, such as scholarships for students and academic professionals, visiting professorships, joint training programmes and international research opportunities, in cooperation with academic institutions and other relevant stakeholders.

**Objective 6: Facilitate fair and ethical recruitment and safeguard conditions that ensure decent work**

22. We commit to review existing recruitment mechanisms to guarantee that they are fair and ethical, and to protect all migrant workers against all forms of exploitation and abuse in order to guarantee decent work and maximize the socioeconomic contributions of migrants in both their countries of origin and destination.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Promote signature and ratification of, accession to and implementation of relevant international instruments related to international labour migration, labour rights, decent work and forced labour;

(b) Build upon the work of existing bilateral, subregional and regional platforms that have overcome obstacles and identified best practices in labour mobility, by facilitating cross-regional dialogue to share this knowledge, and to promote full respect for the human and labour rights of migrant workers at all skills levels, including migrant domestic workers;

(c) Improve regulations on public and private recruitment agencies in order to align them with international guidelines and best practices, and prohibit recruiters and employers from charging or shifting recruitment fees or related costs to migrant workers in order to prevent debt bondage, exploitation and forced labour, including by establishing mandatory, enforceable mechanisms for effective regulation and monitoring of the recruitment industry;

(d) Establish partnerships with all relevant stakeholders, including employers, migrant workers' organizations and trade unions, to ensure that migrant workers are provided with written contracts and are made aware of the provisions therein, the regulations relating to international labour recruitment and employment in the country of destination, and their rights and obligations, as well as of how to access effective complaint and redress mechanisms, in a language they understand;

(e) Enact and implement national laws that sanction human and labour rights violations, especially in cases of forced and child labour, and cooperate with the private sector, including employers, recruiters, subcontractors and suppliers, to build partnerships that promote conditions for decent work, prevent abuse and exploitation, and ensure that the roles and responsibilities within the recruitment and employment processes are clearly outlined, thereby enhancing supply chain transparency;

(f) Strengthen the enforcement of fair and ethical recruitment and decent work norms and policies by enhancing the abilities of labour inspectors and other authorities to better monitor recruiters, employers and service providers in all sectors, ensuring that international human rights and labour law is observed to prevent all forms of exploitation, slavery, servitude and forced, compulsory or child labour;

(g) Develop and strengthen labour migration and fair and ethical recruitment processes that allow migrants to change employers and modify the conditions or length of their stay with minimal administrative burden, while promoting greater opportunities for decent work and respect for international human rights and labour law;

(h) Take measures that prohibit the confiscation or non-consensual retention of work contracts and travel or identity documents from migrants, in order to prevent abuse, all forms of exploitation, forced, compulsory and child labour, extortion and other situations of dependency, and to allow migrants to fully exercise their human rights;

(i) Provide migrant workers engaged in remunerated and contractual labour with the same labour rights and protections extended to all workers in the respective sector, such as the rights to just and favourable conditions of work, to equal pay for work of equal value, to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, and to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including through wage protection mechanisms, social dialogue and membership in trade unions;

(j) Ensure that migrants working in the informal economy have safe access to effective reporting, complaint and redress mechanisms in cases of exploitation, abuse or violations of their rights in the workplace, in a manner that does not exacerbate vulnerabilities of migrants who denounce such incidents and allows them to participate in respective legal proceedings whether in the country of origin or the country of destination;

(k) Review relevant national labour laws, employment policies and programmes to ensure that they include considerations of the specific needs and contributions of women migrant workers, especially in domestic work and lower-skilled occupations, and adopt specific measures to prevent, report, address and provide effective remedy for all forms of exploitation and abuse, including sexual and gender-based violence, as a basis to promote gender-responsive labour mobility policies;

(l) Develop and improve national policies and programmes relating to international labour mobility, including by taking into consideration relevant recommendations of the ILO General Principles and Operational Guidelines for Fair Recruitment, the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights<sup>464</sup> and the IOM International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS).

**Objective 7: Address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration**

23. We commit to respond to the needs of migrants who face situations of vulnerability, which may arise from the circumstances in which they travel or the conditions they face in countries of origin, transit and destination, by assisting them and protecting their human rights, in accordance with our obligations under international law. We further commit to uphold the best interests of the child at all times, as a primary consideration in situations where children are concerned, and to apply a gender-responsive approach in addressing vulnerabilities, including in responses to mixed movements.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Review relevant policies and practices to ensure that they do not create, exacerbate or unintentionally increase vulnerabilities of migrants, including by applying a human rights-based, gender- and disability-responsive, as well as age- and child-sensitive approach;

(b) Establish comprehensive policies and develop partnerships that provide migrants in a situation of vulnerability, regardless of their migration status, with necessary support at all stages of migration, through identification and assistance, as well as protection of their human rights, in particular in cases related to women at risk, children, especially those unaccompanied or separated from their families, members of ethnic and religious minorities, victims of violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, older persons, persons with disabilities, persons who are discriminated against on any basis, indigenous peoples, workers facing exploitation and abuse, domestic workers, victims of trafficking in persons, and migrants subject to exploitation and abuse in the context of smuggling of migrants;

(c) Develop gender-responsive migration policies to address the particular needs and vulnerabilities of migrant women, girls and boys, which may include assistance, health care, psychological and other counselling services, as well as access to justice and effective remedies, especially in cases of sexual and gender-based violence, abuse and exploitation;

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<sup>464</sup> Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework (A/HRC/17/31, annex).



(d) Review relevant existing labour laws and work conditions to identify and effectively address workplace-related vulnerabilities and abuses of migrant workers at all skills levels, including domestic workers, and those working in the informal economy, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, particularly the private sector;

(e) Account for migrant children in national child protection systems by establishing robust procedures for the protection of migrant children in relevant legislative, administrative and judicial proceedings and decisions, as well as in all migration policies and programmes that impact children, including consular protection policies and services, as well as cross-border cooperation frameworks, in order to ensure that the best interests of the child are appropriately integrated, consistently interpreted and applied in coordination and cooperation with child protection authorities;

(f) Protect unaccompanied and separated children at all stages of migration through the establishment of specialized procedures for their identification, referral, care and family reunification, and provide access to health-care services, including mental health, education, legal assistance and the right to be heard in administrative and judicial proceedings, including by swiftly appointing a competent and impartial legal guardian, as essential means to address their particular vulnerabilities and discrimination, protect them from all forms of violence and provide access to sustainable solutions that are in their best interests;

(g) Ensure that migrants have access to public or affordable independent legal assistance and representation in legal proceedings that affect them, including during any related judicial or administrative hearing, in order to safeguard that all migrants, everywhere, are recognized as persons before the law and that the delivery of justice is impartial and non-discriminatory;

(h) Develop accessible and expedient procedures that facilitate transitions from one status to another and inform migrants of their rights and obligations, so as to prevent migrants from falling into an irregular status in the country of destination, to reduce precariousness of status and related vulnerabilities, as well as to enable individual status assessments for migrants, including for those who have fallen out of regular status, without fear of arbitrary expulsion;

(i) Build on existing practices to facilitate access for migrants in an irregular status to an individual assessment that may lead to regular status, on a case-by-case basis and with clear and transparent criteria, especially in cases where children, youth and families are involved, as an option for reducing vulnerabilities, as well as for States to ascertain better knowledge of the resident population;

(j) Apply specific support measures to ensure that migrants caught up in situations of crisis in countries of transit and destination have access to consular protection and humanitarian assistance, including by facilitating cross-border and broader international cooperation, as well as by taking migrant populations into account in crisis preparedness, emergency response and post-crisis action;

(k) Involve local authorities and relevant stakeholders in the identification, referral and assistance of migrants in a situation of vulnerability, including through agreements with national protection bodies, legal aid and service providers, as well as the engagement of mobile response teams, where they exist;

(l) Develop national policies and programmes to improve national responses that address the needs of migrants in situations of vulnerability, including by taking into consideration relevant recommendations of the Global Migration Group's Principles and Guidelines, Supported by Practical Guidance, on the Human Rights Protection of Migrants in Vulnerable Situations.

**Objective 8: Save lives and establish coordinated international efforts on missing migrants**

24. We commit to cooperate internationally to save lives and prevent migrant deaths and injuries through individual or joint search and rescue operations, standardized collection and exchange of relevant information, assuming collective responsibility to preserve the lives of all migrants, in accordance with international law. We further commit to identify those who have died or gone missing, and to facilitate communication with affected families.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Develop procedures and agreements on search and rescue of migrants, with the primary objective of protecting migrants' right to life, that uphold the prohibition of collective expulsion, guarantee due process and individual assessments, enhance reception and assistance capacities, and ensure that the provision of assistance of an exclusively humanitarian nature for migrants is not considered unlawful;

(b) Review the impacts of migration-related policies and laws to ensure that these do not raise or create the risk of migrants going missing, including by identifying dangerous transit routes used by migrants, by working with other States as well as relevant stakeholders and international organizations to identify contextual risks and establishing mechanisms for preventing and responding to such situations, with particular attention to migrant children, especially those unaccompanied or separated;

(c) Enable migrants to communicate with their families without delay to inform them that they are alive by facilitating access to means of communication along routes and at their destination, including in places of detention, as well as access to consular missions, local authorities and organizations that can provide assistance with family contacts, especially in cases of unaccompanied or separated migrant children, as well as adolescents;

(d) Establish transnational coordination channels, including through consular cooperation, and designate contact points for families looking for missing migrants, through which families can be kept informed on the status of the search and obtain other relevant information, while respecting the right to privacy and protecting personal data;

(e) Collect, centralize and systematize data regarding corpses and ensure traceability after burial, in accordance with internationally accepted forensic standards, and establish coordination channels at the transnational level to facilitate identification and the provision of information to families;

(f) Make all efforts, including through international cooperation, to recover, identify and repatriate to their countries of origin the remains of deceased migrants, respecting the wishes of grieving families, and, in the case of unidentified individuals, facilitate the identification and subsequent recovery of the mortal remains, ensuring that the remains of deceased migrants are treated in a dignified, respectful and proper manner.

**Objective 9: Strengthen the transnational response to smuggling of migrants**

25. We commit to intensify joint efforts to prevent and counter smuggling of migrants by strengthening capacities and international cooperation to prevent, investigate, prosecute and penalize the smuggling of migrants in order to end the impunity of smuggling networks. We further commit to ensure that migrants shall not become liable to criminal prosecution for the fact of having been the object of smuggling, notwithstanding potential prosecution for other violations of national law. We also commit to identify smuggled migrants to protect their human rights, taking into consideration the special needs of women and children, and assisting in particular those migrants subject to smuggling under aggravating circumstances, in accordance with international law.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Promote ratification of, accession to and implementation of the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

(b) Use transnational, regional and bilateral mechanisms to share relevant information and intelligence on smuggling routes, modus operandi and financial transactions of smuggling networks, vulnerabilities faced by smuggled migrants, and other data to dismantle the smuggling networks and enhance joint responses;

(c) Develop gender-responsive and child-sensitive cooperation protocols along migration routes that outline step-by-step measures to adequately identify and assist smuggled migrants, in accordance with international law, as well as to facilitate cross-border law enforcement and intelligence cooperation in order to prevent and counter smuggling of migrants so as to end impunity for smugglers and prevent irregular migration, while ensuring that counter-smuggling measures are in full respect for human rights;

(d) Adopt legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish the smuggling of migrants as a criminal offence, when committed intentionally and in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit for the smuggler, and include enhanced penalties for smuggling of migrants under aggravating circumstances, in accordance with international law;

(e) Design, review or amend relevant policies and procedures to distinguish between the crimes of smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons by using the correct definitions and applying distinct responses to these separate crimes, while recognizing that smuggled migrants might also become victims of trafficking in persons, therefore requiring appropriate protection and assistance;

(f) Take measures to prevent the smuggling of migrants along the migration cycle, in partnership with other States and relevant stakeholders, including by cooperating in the fields of development, public information, justice, as well as training and technical capacity-building at the national and local levels, paying special attention to geographical areas from which irregular migration systematically originates.

**Objective 10: Prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration**

26. We commit to take legislative or other measures to prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration by strengthening capacities and international cooperation to investigate, prosecute and penalize trafficking in persons, discouraging demand that fosters exploitation leading to trafficking, and ending impunity of trafficking networks. We further commit to enhance the identification and protection of, and assistance to, migrants who have become victims of trafficking, paying particular attention to women and children.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Promote ratification of, accession to and implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

(b) Promote the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons<sup>465</sup> and take into consideration relevant recommendations of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Toolkit to Combat Trafficking in Persons and other relevant UNODC documents when developing and implementing national and regional policies and measures relating to trafficking in persons;

(c) Monitor irregular migration routes which may be exploited by human trafficking networks to recruit and victimize smuggled or irregular migrants, in order to strengthen cooperation at the bilateral, regional and cross-regional levels on prevention, investigation and prosecution of perpetrators, as well as on identification and protection of, and assistance to, victims of trafficking in persons;

(d) Share relevant information and intelligence through transnational and regional mechanisms, including on the modus operandi, economic models and conditions driving trafficking networks, strengthen cooperation between all relevant actors, including financial intelligence units, regulators and financial institutions, to identify and disrupt financial flows associated with trafficking in persons, and enhance judicial cooperation and enforcement so as to ensure accountability and end impunity;

(e) Apply measures that address the particular vulnerabilities of women, men, girls and boys, regardless of their migration status, who have become or are at risk of becoming victims of trafficking in persons and other forms of exploitation, by facilitating access to justice and safe reporting without fear of detention, deportation or penalty, focusing on prevention, identification, appropriate protection and assistance, and addressing specific forms of abuse and exploitation;

(f) Ensure that definitions of trafficking in persons used in legislation, migration policy and planning, as well as in judicial prosecutions, are in accordance with international law, in order to distinguish between the crimes of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants;

(g) Strengthen legislation and relevant procedures to enhance prosecution of traffickers, avoid criminalization of migrants who are victims of trafficking in persons for trafficking-related offences, and ensure that the victim receives appropriate protection and assistance, not conditional upon cooperation with the authorities against suspected traffickers;

(h) Provide migrants who have become victims of trafficking in persons with protection and assistance, such as measures for physical, psychological and social recovery, as well as measures that permit them to remain in the country of destination, temporarily or permanently, in appropriate cases, facilitating victims' access to justice, including redress and compensation, in accordance with international law;

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<sup>465</sup> Resolution [64/293](#).

(i) Create national and local information systems and training programmes which alert and educate citizens, employers, as well as public officials and law enforcement officers, and strengthen capacities to identify signs of trafficking in persons, such as forced, compulsory or child labour, in countries of origin, transit and destination;

(j) Invest in awareness-raising campaigns, in partnership with relevant stakeholders, for migrants and prospective migrants on the risks and dangers of trafficking in persons, and provide them with information on preventing and reporting trafficking activities.

**Objective 11: Manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner**

27. We commit to manage our national borders in a coordinated manner, promoting bilateral and regional cooperation, ensuring security for States, communities and migrants, and facilitating safe and regular cross-border movements of people while preventing irregular migration. We further commit to implement border management policies that respect national sovereignty, the rule of law, obligations under international law, and the human rights of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, and are non-discriminatory, gender-responsive and child-sensitive.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Enhance international, regional and cross-regional border management cooperation, taking into consideration the particular situation of countries of transit, on proper identification, timely and efficient referral, assistance and appropriate protection of migrants in situations of vulnerability at or near international borders, in compliance with international human rights law, by adopting whole-of-government approaches, implementing joint cross-border training and fostering capacity-building measures;

(b) Establish appropriate structures and mechanisms for effective integrated border management by ensuring comprehensive and efficient border crossing procedures, including through pre-screening of arriving persons, pre-reporting by carriers of passengers, and use of information and communications technology, while upholding the principle of non-discrimination, respecting the right to privacy and protecting personal data;

(c) Review and revise relevant national procedures for border screening, individual assessment and interview processes to ensure due process at international borders and that all migrants are treated in accordance with international human rights law, including through cooperation with national human rights institutions and other relevant stakeholders;

(d) Develop technical cooperation agreements that enable States to request and offer assets, equipment and other technical assistance to strengthen border management, particularly in the area of search and rescue as well as other emergency situations;

(e) Ensure that child protection authorities are promptly informed and assigned to participate in procedures for the determination of the best interests of the child once an unaccompanied or separated child crosses an international border, in accordance with international law, including by training border officials in the rights of the child and child-sensitive procedures, such as those that prevent family separation and reunite families when family separation occurs;

(f) Review and revise relevant laws and regulations to determine whether sanctions are appropriate to address irregular entry or stay and, if so, to ensure that they are proportionate, equitable, non-discriminatory and fully consistent with due process and other obligations under international law;

(g) Improve cross-border collaboration among neighbouring and other States relating to the treatment given to persons crossing or seeking to cross international borders, including by taking into consideration relevant recommendations from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights at International Borders when identifying best practices.

**Objective 12: Strengthen certainty and predictability in migration procedures for appropriate screening, assessment and referral**

28. We commit to increase legal certainty and predictability of migration procedures by developing and strengthening effective and human rights-based mechanisms for the adequate and timely screening and individual assessment of all migrants for the purpose of identifying and facilitating access to the appropriate referral procedures, in accordance with international law.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

- (a) Increase transparency and accessibility of migration procedures by communicating the requirements for entry, admission, stay, work, study or other activities, and introducing technology to simplify application procedures, in order to avoid unnecessary delays and expenses for States and migrants;
- (b) Develop and conduct intra- and cross-regional specialized human rights and trauma-informed training for first responders and government officials, including law enforcement authorities, border officials, consular representatives and judicial bodies, to facilitate and standardize identification and referral of, as well as appropriate assistance and counselling in a culturally sensitive way to, victims of trafficking in persons, migrants in situations of vulnerability, including children, in particular those unaccompanied or separated, and persons affected by any form of exploitation and abuse related to smuggling of migrants under aggravating circumstances;
- (c) Establish gender-responsive and child-sensitive referral mechanisms, including improved screening measures and individual assessments at borders and places of first arrival, by applying standardized operating procedures developed in coordination with local authorities, national human rights institutions, international organizations and civil society;
- (d) Ensure that migrant children are promptly identified at places of first arrival in countries of transit and destination, and, if unaccompanied or separated, are swiftly referred to child protection authorities and other relevant services as well as appointed a competent and impartial legal guardian, that family unity is protected, and that anyone legitimately claiming to be a child is treated as such unless otherwise determined through a multidisciplinary, independent and child-sensitive age assessment;
- (e) Ensure that, in the context of mixed movements, relevant information on rights and obligations under national laws and procedures, including on entry and stay requirements, available forms of protection, as well as options for return and reintegration, is appropriately, promptly and effectively communicated, and is accessible.

**Objective 13: Use immigration detention only as a measure of last resort and work towards alternatives**

29. We commit to ensure that any detention in the context of international migration follows due process, is non-arbitrary, is based on law, necessity, proportionality and individual assessments, is carried out by authorized officials and is for the shortest possible period of time, irrespective of whether detention occurs at the moment of entry, in transit or in proceedings of return, and regardless of the type of place where the detention occurs. We further commit to prioritize non-custodial alternatives to detention that are in line with international law, and to take a human rights-based approach to any detention of migrants, using detention as a measure of last resort only.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

- (a) Use existing relevant human rights mechanisms to improve independent monitoring of migrant detention, ensuring that it is a measure of last resort, that human rights violations do not occur, and that States promote, implement and expand alternatives to detention, favouring non-custodial measures and community-based care arrangements, especially in the case of families and children;
- (b) Consolidate a comprehensive repository to disseminate best practices of human rights-based alternatives to detention in the context of international migration, including by facilitating regular exchanges and the development of initiatives based on successful practices among States, and between States and relevant stakeholders;
- (c) Review and revise relevant legislation, policies and practices related to immigration detention to ensure that migrants are not detained arbitrarily, that decisions to detain are based on law, are proportionate, have a legitimate purpose, and are taken on an individual basis, in full compliance with due process and procedural safeguards, and that immigration detention is not promoted as a deterrent or used as a form of cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment of migrants, in accordance with international human rights law;
- (d) Provide access to justice for all migrants in countries of transit and destination who are or may be subject to detention, including by facilitating access to free or affordable legal advice and assistance of a qualified and independent lawyer, as well as access to information and the right to regular review of a detention order;
- (e) Ensure that all migrants in detention are informed about the reasons for their detention, in a language they understand, and facilitate the exercise of their rights, including to communicate with the respective consular or diplomatic missions without delay, legal representatives and family members, in accordance with international law and due process guarantees;

(f) Reduce the negative and potentially lasting effects of detention on migrants by guaranteeing due process and proportionality, that it is for the shortest period of time, that it safeguards physical and mental integrity, and that, at a minimum, access to food, basic health care, legal orientation and assistance, information and communication as well as adequate accommodation is granted, in accordance with international human rights law;

(g) Ensure that all governmental authorities and private actors duly charged with administering immigration detention do so in a way consistent with human rights and are trained on non-discrimination and the prevention of arbitrary arrest and detention in the context of international migration, and are held accountable for violations or abuses of human rights;

(h) Protect and respect the rights and best interests of the child at all times, regardless of migration status, by ensuring availability and accessibility of a viable range of alternatives to detention in non-custodial contexts, favouring community-based care arrangements, that ensure access to education and health care, and respect the right to family life and family unity, and by working to end the practice of child detention in the context of international migration.

**Objective 14: Enhance consular protection, assistance and cooperation throughout the migration cycle**

30. We commit to strengthen consular protection of and assistance to our nationals abroad, as well as consular cooperation between States, in order to better safeguard the rights and interests of all migrants at all times, and to build upon the functions of consular missions to enhance interactions between migrants and State authorities of countries of origin, transit and destination, in accordance with international law.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Cooperate to build consular capacities, train consular officers, promote arrangements for providing consular services collectively where individual States lack capacity, including through technical assistance, and develop bilateral or regional agreements on various aspects of consular cooperation;

(b) Involve relevant consular and immigration personnel in existing global and regional forums on migration in order to exchange information and best practices about issues of mutual concern that pertain to citizens abroad and contribute to comprehensive and evidence-based migration policy development;

(c) Conclude bilateral or regional agreements on consular assistance and representation in places where States have an interest in strengthening effective consular services related to migration, but do not have a diplomatic or consular presence;

(d) Strengthen consular capacities in order to identify, protect and assist our nationals abroad who are in a situation of vulnerability, including victims of human and labour rights violations or abuse, victims of crime, victims of trafficking in persons, migrants subject to smuggling under aggravating circumstances, and migrant workers exploited in the process of recruitment, by providing training to consular officers on human rights-based, gender-responsive and child-sensitive actions in this regard;

(e) Provide our nationals abroad with the opportunity to register with the country of origin, in close cooperation with consular, national and local authorities, as well as relevant migrant organizations, as a means to facilitate information, services and assistance to migrants in emergency situations and ensure migrants' accessibility to relevant and timely information, such as by establishing helplines and consolidating national digital databases, while upholding the right to privacy and protecting personal data;

(f) Provide consular support to our nationals through advice, including on local laws and customs, interaction with authorities, financial inclusion and business establishment, as well as through the issuance of relevant documentation, such as travel documents and consular identity documents that may facilitate access to services, assistance in emergency situations, the opening of a bank account, and access to remittance facilities.

**Objective 15: Provide access to basic services for migrants**

31. We commit to ensure that all migrants, regardless of their migration status, can exercise their human rights through safe access to basic services. We further commit to strengthen migrant-inclusive service delivery systems, notwithstanding that nationals and regular migrants may be entitled to more comprehensive service provision, while ensuring that any differential treatment must be based on law, be proportionate and pursue a legitimate aim, in accordance with international human rights law.



To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Enact laws and take measures to ensure that service delivery does not amount to discrimination against migrants on the grounds of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, disability or other grounds irrespective of cases where differential provision of services based on migration status might apply;

(b) Ensure that cooperation between service providers and immigration authorities does not exacerbate vulnerabilities of irregular migrants by compromising their safe access to basic services or by unlawfully infringing upon the human rights to privacy, liberty and security of person at places of basic service delivery;

(c) Establish and strengthen holistic and easily accessible service points at the local level that are migrant-inclusive, offer relevant information on basic services in a gender- and disability-responsive as well as child-sensitive manner, and facilitate safe access thereto;

(d) Establish or mandate independent institutions at the national or local level, such as national human rights institutions, to receive, investigate and monitor complaints about situations in which migrants' access to basic services is systematically denied or hindered, facilitate access to redress, and work towards a change in practice;

(e) Incorporate the health needs of migrants into national and local health-care policies and plans, such as by strengthening capacities for service provision, facilitating affordable and non-discriminatory access, reducing communication barriers, and training health-care providers on culturally sensitive service delivery, in order to promote the physical and mental health of migrants and communities overall, including by taking into consideration relevant recommendations from the World Health Organization Framework of Priorities and Guiding Principles to Promote the Health of Refugees and Migrants;

(f) Provide inclusive and equitable quality education to migrant children and youth, as well as facilitate access to lifelong learning opportunities, including by strengthening the capacities of education systems and by facilitating non-discriminatory access to early childhood development, formal schooling, non-formal education programmes for children for whom the formal system is inaccessible, on-the-job and vocational training, technical education and language training, as well as by fostering partnerships with all stakeholders that can support this endeavour.

**Objective 16: Empower migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion**

32. We commit to foster inclusive and cohesive societies by empowering migrants to become active members of society and promoting the reciprocal engagement of receiving communities and migrants in the exercise of their rights and obligations towards each other, including observance of national laws and respect for customs of the country of destination. We further commit to strengthen the welfare of all members of societies by minimizing disparities, avoiding polarization and increasing public confidence in policies and institutions related to migration, in line with the acknowledgement that fully integrated migrants are better positioned to contribute to prosperity.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Promote mutual respect for the cultures, traditions and customs of communities of destination and of migrants by exchanging and implementing best practices on integration policies, programmes and activities, including on ways to promote acceptance of diversity and facilitate social cohesion and inclusion;

(b) Establish comprehensive and needs-based pre-departure and post-arrival programmes that may include rights and obligations, basic language training, as well as orientation about social norms and customs in the country of destination;

(c) Develop national short-, medium- and long-term policy goals regarding the inclusion of migrants in societies, including on labour market integration, family reunification, education, non-discrimination and health, including by fostering partnerships with relevant stakeholders;

(d) Work towards inclusive labour markets and full participation of migrant workers in the formal economy by facilitating access to decent work and employment for which they are most qualified, in accordance with local and national labour market demands and skills supply;

(e) Empower migrant women by eliminating gender-based discriminatory restrictions on formal employment, ensuring the right to freedom of association and facilitating access to relevant basic services, as measures to promote their leadership and guarantee their full, free and equal participation in society and the economy;

(f) Establish community centres or programmes at the local level to facilitate migrant participation in the receiving society by involving migrants, community members, diaspora organizations, migrant associations and local authorities in intercultural dialogue, sharing of stories, mentorship programmes and development of business ties that improve integration outcomes and foster mutual respect;

(g) Capitalize on the skills, cultural and language proficiency of migrants and receiving communities by developing and promoting peer-to-peer training exchanges, gender-responsive, vocational and civic integration courses and workshops;

(h) Support multicultural activities through sports, music, arts, culinary festivals, volunteering and other social events that will facilitate mutual understanding and appreciation of migrant cultures and those of destination communities;

(i) Promote school environments that are welcoming and safe, and support the aspirations of migrant children by enhancing relationships within the school community, incorporating evidence-based information about migration into education curricula, and dedicating targeted resources to schools with a high concentration of migrant children for integration activities in order to promote respect for diversity and inclusion, and to prevent all forms of discrimination, including racism, xenophobia and intolerance.

**Objective 17: Eliminate all forms of discrimination and promote evidence-based public discourse to shape perceptions of migration**

33. We commit to eliminate all forms of discrimination, condemn and counter expressions, acts and manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, violence, xenophobia and related intolerance against all migrants in conformity with international human rights law. We further commit to promote an open and evidence-based public discourse on migration and migrants in partnership with all parts of society, that generates a more realistic, humane and constructive perception in this regard. We also commit to protect freedom of expression in accordance with international law, recognizing that an open and free debate contributes to a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of migration.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Enact, implement or maintain legislation that penalizes hate crimes and aggravated hate crimes targeting migrants, and train law enforcement and other public officials to identify, prevent and respond to such crimes and other acts of violence that target migrants, as well as to provide medical, legal and psychosocial assistance for victims;

(b) Empower migrants and communities to denounce any acts of incitement to violence directed towards migrants by informing them of available mechanisms for redress, and ensure that those who actively participate in the commission of a hate crime targeting migrants are held accountable, in accordance with national legislation, while upholding international human rights law, in particular the right to freedom of expression;

(c) Promote independent, objective and quality reporting of media outlets, including Internet-based information, including by sensitizing and educating media professionals on migration-related issues and terminology, investing in ethical reporting standards and advertising, and stopping allocation of public funding or material support to media outlets that systematically promote intolerance, xenophobia, racism and other forms of discrimination towards migrants, in full respect for the freedom of the media;

(d) Establish mechanisms to prevent, detect and respond to racial, ethnic and religious profiling of migrants by public authorities, as well as systematic instances of intolerance, xenophobia, racism and all other multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, in partnership with national human rights institutions, including by tracking and publishing trend analyses, and ensuring access to effective complaint and redress mechanisms;

(e) Provide migrants, especially migrant women, with access to national and regional complaint and redress mechanisms with a view to promoting accountability and addressing governmental actions related to discriminatory acts and manifestations carried out against migrants and their families;

(f) Promote awareness-raising campaigns targeted at communities of origin, transit and destination in order to inform public perceptions regarding the positive contributions of safe, orderly and regular migration, based on evidence and facts, and to end racism, xenophobia and stigmatization against all migrants;

(g) Engage migrants, political, religious and community leaders, as well as educators and service providers, to detect and prevent incidences of intolerance, racism, xenophobia and other forms of discrimination against migrants and diasporas, and support activities in local communities to promote mutual respect, including in the context of electoral campaigns.

**Objective 18: Invest in skills development and facilitate mutual recognition of skills, qualifications and competences**

34. We commit to invest in innovative solutions that facilitate mutual recognition of skills, qualifications and competences of migrant workers at all skills levels, and promote demand-driven skills development to optimize the employability of migrants in formal labour markets in countries of destination and in countries of origin upon return, as well as to ensure decent work in labour migration.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Develop standards and guidelines for the mutual recognition of foreign qualifications and non-formally acquired skills in different sectors in collaboration with the respective industries with a view to ensuring worldwide compatibility based on existing models and best practices;

(b) Promote transparency of certifications and compatibility of national qualifications frameworks by agreeing on standard criteria, indicators and assessment parameters, and by creating and strengthening national skills profiling tools, registries or institutions in order to facilitate effective and efficient mutual recognition procedures at all skills levels;

(c) Conclude bilateral, regional or multilateral mutual recognition agreements or include recognition provisions in other agreements, such as labour mobility or trade agreements, in order to provide equivalence or comparability in national systems, such as automatic or managed mutual recognition mechanisms;

(d) Use technology and digitalization to evaluate and mutually recognize skills more comprehensively on the basis of formal credentials as well as non-formally acquired competences and professional experience at all skills levels;

(e) Build global skills partnerships among countries that strengthen training capacities of national authorities and relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and trade unions, and foster skills development of workers in countries of origin and migrants in countries of destination with a view to preparing trainees for employability in the labour markets of all participating countries;

(f) Promote inter-institutional networks and collaborative programmes for partnerships between the private sector and educational institutions in countries of origin and destination to enable mutually beneficial skills development opportunities for migrants, communities and participating partners, including by building on the best practices of the Business Mechanism developed in the context of the Global Forum on Migration and Development;

(g) Engage in bilateral partnerships and programmes in cooperation with relevant stakeholders that promote skills development, mobility and circulation, such as student exchange programmes, scholarships, professional exchange programmes and trainee- or apprenticeships that include options for beneficiaries, after successful completion of these programmes, to seek employment and engage in entrepreneurship;

(h) Cooperate with the private sector and employers to make available easily accessible and gender-responsive remote or online skills development and matching programmes to migrants at all skills levels, including early and occupation-specific language training, on-the-job training and access to advanced training programmes, to enhance their employability in sectors with demand for labour on the basis of the industry's knowledge of labour market dynamics, especially to promote the economic empowerment of women;

(i) Enhance the ability of migrant workers to transition from one job or employer to another by making available documentation that recognizes skills acquired on the job or through training in order to optimize the benefits of upskilling;

(j) Develop and promote innovative ways to mutually recognize and assess formally and informally acquired skills, including through timely and complementary training for job seekers, mentoring, and internship programmes in order to fully recognize existing credentials and provide certificates of proficiency for the validation of newly acquired skills;

(k) Establish screening mechanisms for credentials and offer information to migrants on how to have their skills and qualifications assessed and recognized prior to departure, including in recruitment processes or at an early stage after arrival to improve employability;

(l) Cooperate to promote documentation and information tools, in partnership with relevant stakeholders, that provide an overview of a worker's credentials, skills and qualifications, recognized in countries of origin, transit and destination, in order to enable employers to evaluate the suitability of migrant workers in job application processes.

**Objective 19: Create conditions for migrants and diasporas to fully contribute to sustainable development in all countries**

35. We commit to empower migrants and diasporas to catalyse their development contributions, and to harness the benefits of migration as a source of sustainable development, reaffirming that migration is a multidimensional reality of major relevance to the sustainable development of countries of origin, transit and destination.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Ensure the full and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda by fostering and facilitating the positive effects of migration for the realization of all Sustainable Development Goals;

(b) Integrate migration into development planning and sectoral policies at the local, national, regional and global levels, taking into consideration relevant existing policy guidelines and recommendations, such as the Global Migration Group's Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning: A Handbook for Policymakers and Practitioners, in order to strengthen policy coherence and effectiveness of development cooperation;

(c) Invest in research on the impact of non-financial contributions of migrants and diasporas to sustainable development in countries of origin and destination, such as knowledge and skills transfer, social and civic engagement, and cultural exchange, with a view to developing evidence-based policies and strengthening global policy discussions;

(d) Facilitate the contributions of migrants and diasporas to their countries of origin, including by establishing or strengthening government structures or mechanisms at all levels, such as dedicated diaspora offices or focal points, diaspora policy advisory boards for Governments to account for the potential of migrants and diasporas in migration and development policymaking, and dedicated diaspora focal points in diplomatic or consular missions;

(e) Develop targeted support programmes and financial products that facilitate migrant and diaspora investments and entrepreneurship, including by providing administrative and legal support in business creation and granting seed capital-matching, establish diaspora bonds, diaspora development funds and investment funds, and organize dedicated trade fairs;

(f) Provide easily accessible information and guidance, including through digital platforms, as well as tailored mechanisms for the coordinated and effective financial, voluntary or philanthropic engagement of migrants and diasporas, especially in humanitarian emergencies in their countries of origin, including by involving consular missions;

(g) Enable political participation and engagement of migrants in their countries of origin, including in peace and reconciliation processes, in elections and political reforms, such as by establishing voting registries for citizens abroad, and through parliamentary representation, in accordance with national legislation;

(h) Promote migration policies that optimize the benefits of diasporas for countries of origin and destination and their communities, by facilitating flexible modalities to travel, work and invest with minimal administrative burdens, including by reviewing and revising visa, residency and citizenship regulations, as appropriate;

(i) Cooperate with other States, the private sector and employers' organizations to enable migrants and diasporas, especially those in highly technical fields and in high demand, to carry out some of their professional activities and engage in knowledge transfer in their home countries, without necessarily losing employment, residence status or earned social benefits;

(j) Build partnerships between local authorities, local communities, the private sector, diasporas, hometown associations and migrant organizations to promote knowledge and skills transfer between their countries of origin and their countries of destination, including by mapping the diasporas and their skills, as a means to maintain the link between diasporas and their country of origin.

**Objective 20: Promote faster, safer and cheaper transfer of remittances and foster financial inclusion of migrants**

36. We commit to promote faster, safer and cheaper remittances by further developing existing conducive policy and regulatory environments that enable competition, regulation and innovation on the remittance market and by providing gender-responsive programmes and instruments that enhance the financial inclusion of migrants and their families. We further commit to optimize the transformative impact of remittances on the well-being of migrant workers and their families, as well as on the sustainable development of countries, while respecting that remittances constitute an important source of private capital and cannot be equated to other international financial flows, such as foreign direct investment, official development assistance or other public sources of financing for development.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Develop a road map to reduce the transaction costs of migrant remittances to less than 3 per cent and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent by 2030 in line with target 10.c of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(b) Promote and support the United Nations International Day of Family Remittances and the International Fund for Agricultural Development Global Forum on Remittances, Investment and Development as an important platform to build and strengthen partnerships for innovative solutions on cheaper, faster and safer transfer of remittances with all relevant stakeholders;

(c) Harmonize remittance market regulations and increase the interoperability of remittance infrastructure along corridors by ensuring that measures to combat illicit financial flows and money-laundering do not impede migrant remittances through undue, excessive or discriminatory policies;

(d) Establish conducive policy and regulatory frameworks that promote a competitive and innovative remittance market, remove unwarranted obstacles to non-bank remittance service providers in accessing payment system infrastructure, apply tax exemptions or incentives to remittance transfers, promote market access to diverse service providers, incentivize the private sector to expand remittance services, and enhance the security and predictability of low-value transactions by bearing in mind de-risking concerns, and developing a methodology to distinguish remittances from illicit flows, in consultation with remittance service providers and financial regulators;

(e) Develop innovative technological solutions for remittance transfer, such as mobile payments, digital tools or e-banking, to reduce costs, improve speed, enhance security, increase transfer through regular channels and open up gender-responsive distribution channels to underserved populations, including persons in rural areas, persons with low levels of literacy and persons with disabilities;

(f) Provide accessible information on remittance transfer costs by provider and channel, such as comparison websites, in order to increase the transparency and competition on the remittance transfer market, and promote financial literacy and inclusion of migrants and their families through education and training;

(g) Develop programmes and instruments to promote investments from remittance senders in local development and entrepreneurship in countries of origin, such as through matching-grant mechanisms, municipal bonds and partnerships with hometown associations, in order to enhance the transformative potential of remittances beyond the individual households of migrant workers at all skills levels;

(h) Enable migrant women to access financial literacy training and formal remittance transfer systems, as well as to open a bank account and own and manage financial assets, investments and businesses as means to address gender inequalities and foster their active participation in the economy;

(i) Provide access to and develop banking solutions and financial instruments for migrants, including low-income and female-headed households, such as bank accounts that permit direct deposits by employers, savings accounts, loans and credits in cooperation with the banking sector.

**Objective 21: Cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration**

37. We commit to facilitate and cooperate for safe and dignified return and to guarantee due process, individual assessment and effective remedy, by upholding the prohibition of collective expulsion and of returning migrants when there is a real and foreseeable risk of death, torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment,

or other irreparable harm, in accordance with our obligations under international human rights law. We further commit to ensure that our nationals are duly received and readmitted, in full respect for the human right to return to one's own country and the obligation of States to readmit their own nationals. We also commit to create conducive conditions for personal safety, economic empowerment, inclusion and social cohesion in communities, in order to ensure that reintegration of migrants upon return to their countries of origin is sustainable.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

(a) Develop and implement bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation frameworks and agreements, including readmission agreements, ensuring that return and readmission of migrants to their own country is safe, dignified and in full compliance with international human rights law, including the rights of the child, by determining clear and mutually agreed procedures that uphold procedural safeguards, guarantee individual assessments and legal certainty, and by ensuring that they also include provisions that facilitate sustainable reintegration;

(b) Promote gender-responsive and child-sensitive return and reintegration programmes that may include legal, social and financial support, guaranteeing that all returns in the context of such voluntary programmes effectively take place on the basis of the migrant's free, prior and informed consent, and that returning migrants are assisted in their reintegration process through effective partnerships, including to avoid their becoming displaced in the country of origin upon return;

(c) Cooperate on identification of nationals and issuance of travel documents for safe and dignified return and readmission in cases of persons who do not have the legal right to stay on another State's territory, by establishing reliable and efficient means of identification of our own nationals such as through the addition of biometric identifiers in population registries, and by digitalizing civil registry systems, with full respect for the right to privacy and protection of personal data;

(d) Foster institutional contacts between consular authorities and relevant officials from countries of origin and destination, and provide adequate consular assistance to returning migrants prior to return by facilitating access to documentation, travel documents and other services, in order to ensure predictability, safety and dignity in return and readmission;

(e) Ensure that the return of migrants who do not have the legal right to stay on another State's territory is safe and dignified, follows an individual assessment, is carried out by competent authorities through prompt and effective cooperation between countries of origin and destination, and allows all applicable legal remedies to be exhausted, in compliance with due process guarantees and other obligations under international human rights law;

(f) Establish or strengthen national monitoring mechanisms on return, in partnership with relevant stakeholders, that provide independent recommendations on ways and means to strengthen accountability, in order to guarantee the safety, dignity and human rights of all returning migrants;

(g) Ensure that return and readmission processes involving children are carried out only after a determination of the best interests of the child and take into account the right to family life and family unity, and that a parent, legal guardian or specialized official accompanies the child throughout the return process, ensuring that appropriate reception, care and reintegration arrangements for children are in place in the country of origin upon return;

(h) Facilitate the sustainable reintegration of returning migrants into community life by providing them with equal access to social protection and services, justice, psychosocial assistance, vocational training, employment opportunities and decent work, recognition of skills acquired abroad, and financial services, in order to fully build upon their entrepreneurship, skills and human capital as active members of society and contributors to sustainable development in the country of origin upon return;

(i) Identify and address the needs of the communities to which migrants return by including respective provisions in national and local development strategies, infrastructure planning, budget allocations and other relevant policy decisions and cooperating with local authorities and relevant stakeholders.

**Objective 22: Establish mechanisms for the portability of social security entitlements and earned benefits**

38. We commit to assist migrant workers at all skills levels to have access to social protection in countries of destination and profit from the portability of applicable social security entitlements and earned benefits in their countries of origin or when they decide to take up work in another country.



To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

- (a) Establish or maintain non-discriminatory national social protection systems, including social protection floors for nationals and migrants, in line with the ILO Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202);
- (b) Conclude reciprocal bilateral, regional or multilateral social security agreements on the portability of earned benefits for migrant workers at all skills levels, that refer to applicable social protection floors in the respective States and applicable social security entitlements and provisions, such as pensions, health care or other earned benefits, or integrate such provisions into other relevant agreements, such as those on long-term and temporary labour migration;
- (c) Integrate provisions on the portability of entitlements and earned benefits into national social security frameworks, designate focal points in countries of origin, transit and destination that facilitate portability requests from migrants, address the difficulties women and older persons can face in accessing social protection, and establish dedicated instruments, such as migrant welfare funds in countries of origin, that support migrant workers and their families.

**Objective 23: Strengthen international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration**

39. We commit to support each other in the realization of the objectives and commitments laid out in this Global Compact through enhanced international cooperation, a revitalized global partnership and, in the spirit of solidarity, reaffirming the centrality of a comprehensive and integrated approach to facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration and recognizing that we are all countries of origin, transit and destination. We further commit to take joint action, in addressing the challenges faced by each country, to implement this Global Compact, underscoring the specific challenges faced in particular by African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries. We also commit to promote the mutually reinforcing nature between the Global Compact and existing international legal and policy frameworks, by aligning the implementation of this Global Compact with such frameworks, particularly the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and their recognition that migration and sustainable development are multidimensional and interdependent.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

- (a) Support other States as we collectively implement the Global Compact, including through the provision of financial and technical assistance, in line with national priorities, policies, action plans and strategies, through a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach;
- (b) Increase international and regional cooperation to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in geographical areas from which irregular migration systematically originates owing to consistent impacts of poverty, unemployment, climate change and disasters, inequality, corruption and poor governance, among other structural factors, through appropriate cooperation frameworks, innovative partnerships and the involvement of all relevant stakeholders, while upholding national ownership and shared responsibility;
- (c) Involve and support local authorities in the identification of needs and opportunities for international cooperation for the effective implementation of the Global Compact and integrate their perspectives and priorities into development strategies, programmes and planning on migration, as a means to ensure good governance as well as policy coherence across levels of government and policy sectors, and maximize the effectiveness and impact of international development cooperation;
- (d) Make use of the capacity-building mechanism and build upon other existing instruments to strengthen the capacities of relevant authorities by mobilizing technical, financial and human resources from States, international financial institutions, the private sector, international organizations and other sources in order to assist all States in fulfilling the commitments outlined in this Global Compact;
- (e) Conclude bilateral, regional or multilateral mutually beneficial, tailored and transparent partnerships, in line with international law, that develop targeted solutions to migration policy issues of common interest and address opportunities and challenges of migration in accordance with the Global Compact.

### Implementation

40. For the effective implementation of the Global Compact, we require concerted efforts at the global, regional, national and local levels, including a coherent United Nations system.

41. We commit to fulfil the objectives and commitments outlined in the Global Compact, in line with our vision and guiding principles, by taking effective steps at all levels to facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration at all stages. We will implement the Global Compact, within our own countries and at the regional and global levels, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development, and respecting national policies and priorities. We reaffirm our commitment to international law and emphasize that the Global Compact is to be implemented in a manner that is consistent with our rights and obligations under international law.

42. We will implement the Global Compact through enhanced bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation and a revitalized global partnership in a spirit of solidarity. We will continue building on existing mechanisms, platforms and frameworks to address migration in all its dimensions. Recognizing the centrality of international cooperation for the effective fulfilment of the objectives and commitments, we will strive to reinforce our engagement in North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation and assistance. Our cooperation efforts in this regard will be aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

43. We decide to establish a capacity-building mechanism in the United Nations, building upon existing initiatives, that supports efforts of Member States to implement the Global Compact. It allows Member States, the United Nations and other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and philanthropic foundations, to contribute technical, financial and human resources on a voluntary basis in order to strengthen capacities and foster multi-partner cooperation. The capacity-building mechanism will consist of:

- (a) A connection hub that facilitates demand-driven, tailor-made and integrated solutions, by:
  - (i) Advising on, assessing and processing country requests for the development of solutions;
  - (ii) Identifying main implementing partners within and outside of the United Nations system, in line with their comparative advantages and operational capacities;
  - (iii) Connecting the request to similar initiatives and solutions for peer-to-peer exchange and potential replication, where existing and relevant;
  - (iv) Ensuring effective set-up for multi-agency and multi-stakeholder implementation;
  - (v) Identifying funding opportunities, including by initiating the start-up fund;
- (b) A start-up fund for initial financing to realize project-oriented solutions, by:
  - (i) Providing seed funding, where needed, to jump-start a specific project;
  - (ii) Complementing other funding sources;
  - (iii) Receiving voluntary financial contributions by Member States, the United Nations, international financial institutions and other stakeholders, including the private sector and philanthropic foundations;
- (c) A global knowledge platform as an online open data source, by:
  - (i) Serving as a repository of existing evidence, practices and initiatives;
  - (ii) Facilitating the accessibility of knowledge and sharing of solutions;
  - (iii) Building on the Global Forum on Migration and Development Platform for Partnerships and other relevant sources.

44. We will implement the Global Compact in cooperation and partnership with migrants, civil society, migrant and diaspora organizations, faith-based organizations, local authorities and communities, the private sector, trade unions, parliamentarians, national human rights institutions, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, academia, the media and other relevant stakeholders.

45. We welcome the decision of the Secretary-General to establish a United Nations network on migration to ensure effective and coherent system-wide support for implementation, including the capacity-building mechanism, as well as follow-up and review of the Global Compact, in response to the needs of Member States. In this regard, we note that:

- (a) IOM will serve as the coordinator and secretariat of the network;
- (b) The network will fully draw from the technical expertise and experience of relevant entities within the United Nations system;
- (c) The work of the network will be fully aligned with existing coordination mechanisms and the repositioning of the United Nations development system.

46. We request the Secretary-General, drawing on the network, to report to the General Assembly on a biennial basis on the implementation of the Global Compact, the activities of the United Nations system in this regard, as well as the functioning of the institutional arrangements.

47. Further recognizing the important role of State-led processes and platforms at the global and regional levels in advancing the international dialogue on migration, we invite the Global Forum on Migration and Development, regional consultative processes and other global, regional and subregional forums to provide platforms to exchange experiences on the implementation of the Global Compact, share good practices on policies and cooperation, promote innovative approaches, and foster multi-stakeholder partnerships around specific policy issues.

#### **Follow-up and review**

48. We will review the progress made at the local, national, regional and global levels in implementing the Global Compact in the framework of the United Nations through a State-led approach and with the participation of all relevant stakeholders. For follow-up and review, we agree on intergovernmental measures that will assist us in fulfilling our objectives and commitments.

49. Considering that international migration requires a forum at the global level through which Member States can review the implementation progress and guide the direction of the work of the United Nations, we decide that:

- (a) The High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, currently scheduled to take place every fourth session of the General Assembly, shall be repurposed and renamed “International Migration Review Forum”;
- (b) The International Migration Review Forum shall serve as the primary intergovernmental global platform for Member States to discuss and share progress on the implementation of all aspects of the Global Compact, including as it relates to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and with the participation of all relevant stakeholders;
- (c) The International Migration Review Forum shall take place every four years beginning in 2022;
- (d) The International Migration Review Forum shall discuss the implementation of the Global Compact at the local, national, regional and global levels, as well as allow for interaction with other relevant stakeholders with a view to building upon accomplishments and identifying opportunities for further cooperation;
- (e) Each edition of the International Migration Review Forum will result in an intergovernmentally agreed Progress Declaration, which may be taken into consideration by the high-level political forum on sustainable development.

50. Considering that most international migration takes place within regions, we invite relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations, including the United Nations regional economic commissions or regional consultative processes, to review the implementation of the Global Compact within the respective regions, beginning in 2020, alternating with discussions at the global level at a four-year interval, in order to effectively inform each edition of the International Migration Review Forum, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders.

51. We invite the Global Forum on Migration and Development to provide a space for annual informal exchange on the implementation of the Global Compact, and to report the findings, best practices and innovative approaches to the International Migration Review Forum.

52. Recognizing the important contributions of State-led initiatives on international migration, we invite forums such as the IOM International Dialogue on Migration, regional consultative processes and others to contribute to the International Migration Review Forum by providing relevant data, evidence, best practices, innovative approaches and recommendations as they relate to the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

53. We encourage all Member States to develop, as soon as practicable, ambitious national responses for the implementation of the Global Compact, and to conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national level, such as through the voluntary elaboration and use of a national implementation plan. Such reviews should draw on contributions from all relevant stakeholders, as well as parliaments and local authorities, and serve to effectively inform the participation of Member States in the International Migration Review Forum and other relevant forums.

54. We request the President of the General Assembly to launch and conclude, in 2019, open, transparent and inclusive intergovernmental consultations to determine the precise modalities and organizational aspects of the International Migration Review Forums and articulate how the contributions of the regional reviews and other relevant processes will inform the Forums, as a means to further strengthen the overall effectiveness and consistency of the follow-up and review outlined in the Global Compact.

### RESOLUTION 73/256

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.69](#) and [A/73/L.69/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Central African Republic, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Oman, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

#### 73/256. Assistance to the Palestinian people

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution [72/134](#) of 11 December 2017, as well as its previous resolutions on the question,

*Recalling also* the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993, by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,<sup>466</sup> and the subsequent implementation agreements concluded by the two sides,

*Recalling further* all relevant international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, and, in particular, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>467</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>467</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>468</sup> and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>469</sup>

*Gravely concerned* at the difficult living conditions and humanitarian situation affecting the Palestinian people, in particular women and children, throughout the occupied Palestinian territory, particularly in the Gaza Strip where economic recovery and vast infrastructure repair, rehabilitation and development are urgently needed, especially in the aftermath of the conflict of July and August 2014,

*Conscious* of the urgent need for improvement in the economic and social infrastructure of the occupied territory,

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<sup>466</sup> [A/48/486-S/26560](#), annex.

<sup>467</sup> See resolution [2200 A \(XXI\)](#), annex.

<sup>468</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>469</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

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*Welcoming*, in this context, the development of projects, notably on infrastructure, to revive the Palestinian economy and improve the living conditions of the Palestinian people, stressing the need to create the appropriate conditions to facilitate the implementation of these projects, and noting the contribution of partners in the region and of the international community,

*Aware* that development is difficult under occupation and is best promoted in circumstances of peace and stability,

*Noting* the great economic and social challenges facing the Palestinian people and their leadership,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the safety and well-being of all people, in particular women and children, in the whole Middle East region, the promotion of which is facilitated, inter alia, in a stable and secure environment,

*Deeply concerned* about the negative impact, including the health and psychological consequences, of violence on the present and future well-being of children in the region,

*Conscious* of the urgent necessity for international assistance to the Palestinian people, taking into account the Palestinian priorities, and recalling in this regard the National Early Recovery and Reconstruction Plan for Gaza,

*Expressing grave concern* about the grave humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, and underlining the importance of emergency and humanitarian assistance and the need for the advancement of reconstruction in the Gaza Strip,

*Welcoming* the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, the establishment of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians and the work being done by the World Bank as its secretariat and the establishment of the Consultative Group, as well as all follow-up meetings and international mechanisms established to provide assistance to the Palestinian people,

*Underlining* the importance of the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, held on 12 October 2014, and urging the timely and full disbursement of pledges for expediting the provision of humanitarian assistance and the reconstruction process,

*Recalling* the International Donors' Conference for the Palestinian State, held in Paris on 17 December 2007, the Berlin Conference in Support of Palestinian Civil Security and the Rule of Law, held on 24 June 2008, and the Palestine Investment Conferences, held in Bethlehem from 21 to 23 May 2008 and on 2 and 3 June 2010, and the International Conference in Support of the Palestinian Economy for the Reconstruction of Gaza, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 2 March 2009,

*Welcoming* the ministerial meetings of the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development, convened in Tokyo in February 2013 and in Jakarta in March 2014, as a forum to mobilize political and economic assistance, including through exchanges of expertise and lessons learned, in support of Palestinian development,

*Welcoming also* the latest meetings of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians, held in Brussels on 27 May 2015 and in New York on 25 September 2013, 22 September 2014, 30 September 2015, 19 September 2016, 18 September 2017 and 27 September 2018,

*Welcoming further* the activities of the Joint Liaison Committee, which provides a forum in which economic policy and practical matters related to donor assistance are discussed with the Palestinian Authority,

*Welcoming* the implementation of the Palestinian National Development Plan 2011–2013 on governance, economy, social development and infrastructure and the adoption of the Palestinian National Development Plan 2014–2016: State-building to Sovereignty, and stressing the need for continued international support for the Palestinian State-building process, as outlined in the summary by the Chair of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee held on 22 September 2014,

*Stressing* the need for the full engagement of the United Nations in the process of building Palestinian institutions and in providing broad assistance to the Palestinian people,

*Recognizing*, in this regard, the positive contribution of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2014–2016, which is aimed, inter alia, at enhancing developmental support and assistance to the Palestinian people and strengthening institutional capacity in line with Palestinian national priorities,

*Welcoming* steps to ease the restrictions on movement and access in the West Bank, while stressing the need for further steps to be taken in this regard, and recognizing that such steps would improve living conditions and the situation on the ground and could promote further Palestinian economic development,

*Welcoming also* the tripartite agreement facilitated by the United Nations regarding access to the Gaza Strip, and calling for its full implementation and complementary measures that address the need for a fundamental change in policy that allows for the sustained and regular opening of the border crossings for the movement of persons and goods, including for humanitarian and commercial flows and for the reconstruction and economic recovery of Gaza,

*Stressing* that the situation in the Gaza Strip is unsustainable and that a durable ceasefire agreement must lead to a fundamental improvement in the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip and ensure the safety and well-being of civilians on both sides,

*Stressing also* the urgency of reaching a durable solution to the crisis in Gaza through the full implementation of Security Council resolution [1860 \(2009\)](#) of 8 January 2009, including by preventing the illicit trafficking in arms and ammunition and by ensuring the sustained reopening of the crossing points on the basis of existing agreements, including the 2005 Agreement on Movement and Access between the Palestinian Authority and Israel,

*Stressing*, in this regard, the importance of the effective exercise by the Palestinian Authority of its full government responsibilities in the Gaza Strip in all fields, including through its presence at the Gaza crossing points,

*Noting* the active participation of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority in the activities of the Special Envoys of the Quartet,

*Reaffirming* the necessity of achieving a comprehensive resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict in all its aspects, on the basis of relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions [242 \(1967\)](#) of 22 November 1967, [338 \(1973\)](#) of 22 October 1973, [1397 \(2002\)](#) of 12 March 2002, [1515 \(2003\)](#) of 19 November 2003, [1850 \(2008\)](#) of 16 December 2008 and [1860 \(2009\)](#), as well as the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference and the principle of land for peace, in order to ensure a political solution, with two States – Israel and an independent, democratic, contiguous, sovereign and viable Palestinian State – living side by side in peace and security and mutual recognition,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>470</sup>

*Expressing grave concern* about continuing violence against civilians,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>470</sup>
2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his rapid response and ongoing efforts regarding assistance to the Palestinian people, including with regard to the emergency humanitarian needs in the Gaza Strip;
3. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations that have provided and continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people;
4. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority and of the steps taken under the auspices of the Secretary-General to ensure the achievement of a coordinated mechanism for United Nations activities throughout the occupied territories;
5. *Urges* Member States, international financial institutions of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and regional and interregional organizations to extend, as rapidly and as generously as possible, economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people, in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization and through official Palestinian institutions;
6. *Welcomes* the meetings of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians of 25 September 2013, 22 September 2014, 27 May and 30 September 2015, 19 September 2016, 18 September 2017 and 27 September 2018, the outcome of the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, held on 12 October 2014, and the generous donor response to support the needs of the Palestinian people, and urges the rapid disbursement of donor pledges;

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<sup>470</sup> [A/73/84-E/2018/72](#).

## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

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7. *Stresses* the importance of following up on the results of the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza to effectively promote economic recovery and reconstruction in a timely and sustainable manner;

8. *Calls upon* donors that have not yet converted their budget support pledges into disbursements to transfer funds as soon as possible, encourages all donors to increase their direct assistance to the Palestinian Authority in accordance with its government programme in order to enable it to build a viable and prosperous Palestinian State, underlines the need for equitable burden sharing by donors in this effort, and encourages donors to consider aligning funding cycles with the Palestinian Authority's national budget cycle;

9. *Calls upon* relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to intensify their assistance in response to the urgent needs of the Palestinian people in accordance with priorities set forth by the Palestinian side;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and recognizes the vital role of the Agency in providing humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people, particularly in the Gaza Strip;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to provide urgently needed assistance and services in an effort to alleviate the difficult humanitarian situation being faced by Palestinian women, children and their families and to help in the reconstruction and development of relevant Palestinian institutions;

12. *Stresses* the role that all funding instruments, including the European Commission's Palestinian-European Mechanism for the Management of Socioeconomic Aid and the World Bank trust fund, have been playing in directly assisting the Palestinian people;

13. *Urges* Member States to open their markets to exports of Palestinian products on the most favourable terms, consistent with appropriate trading rules, and to implement fully existing trade and cooperation agreements;

14. *Calls upon* the international donor community to expedite the delivery of pledged assistance to the Palestinian people to meet their urgent needs;

15. *Stresses*, in this context, the importance of ensuring free humanitarian access to the Palestinian people and the free movement of persons and goods;

16. *Also stresses* the need for the full implementation by both parties of existing agreements, including the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, of 15 November 2005, to allow for the freedom of movement of the Palestinian civilian population, as well as for imports and exports, within and into and out of the Gaza Strip;

17. *Further stresses* the need to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, premises, facilities, equipment, vehicles and supplies, as well as the need to ensure safe and unhindered access by humanitarian personnel and delivery of supplies and equipment, in order to allow such personnel to efficiently perform their task of assisting affected civilian populations;

18. *Urges* the international donor community, United Nations agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations to extend to the Palestinian people, as rapidly as possible, emergency economic assistance and humanitarian assistance, particularly in the Gaza Strip, to counter the impact of the current crisis;

19. *Stresses* the need for the continued implementation of the Paris Protocol on Economic Relations of 29 April 1994, fifth annex to the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,<sup>471</sup> including with regard to the full, prompt and regular transfer of Palestinian indirect tax revenues;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution, containing:

- (a) An assessment of the assistance actually received by the Palestinian people;
- (b) An assessment of the needs still unmet and specific proposals for responding effectively to them;

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<sup>471</sup> [A/51/889-S/1997/357](#), annex.



21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance”, the sub-item entitled “Assistance to the Palestinian people”.

### RESOLUTION 73/257

Adopted at the 63rd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, by a recorded vote of 69 to 4, with 66 abstentions,\* on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.63](#), as orally revised, sponsored by Mexico

\* *In favour:* Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Guatemala, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

*Against:* Israel, Liberia, Marshall Islands, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Australia, Bahrain, Barbados, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Chad, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Czechia, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Eswatini, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mali, Monaco, Montenegro, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Suriname, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu, Zimbabwe

#### **73/257. Judgment of the International Court of Justice of 31 March 2004 concerning *Avena and Other Mexican Nationals*: need for immediate compliance**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution [41/31](#) of 3 November 1986,

*Noting* that, under the Charter of the United Nations, the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations and that each Member undertakes to comply with the decision of the Court in any case to which it is a party,

*Aware* of the Judgment of the International Court of Justice of 31 March 2004 in the case concerning *Avena and Other Mexican Nationals*,<sup>472</sup> relating to violations of the obligation to provide consular information without delay and to enable consular officers to communicate with, have access to and visit their nationals and to arrange for their legal representation, in accordance with the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations of 24 April 1963,<sup>473</sup> with respect to 52 Mexican nationals who had been sentenced to death in certain states of the United States of America, and in particular of paragraph 153 (9), in which it was established that the appropriate reparation consists in the obligation of the United States of America to provide, by means of its own choosing, review and reconsideration of the convictions and sentences of 51 Mexican nationals included in the Judgment,

*Aware also* of the Judgment of the International Court of Justice of 19 January 2009 regarding the request for interpretation of the Judgment of 31 March 2004,<sup>474</sup> in particular of paragraph 61 (2), in which it was established that the United States of America had breached the obligation incumbent upon it under the Order indicating provisional measures of 16 July 2008,<sup>475</sup> in the case of Mr. José Ernesto Medellín Rojas,

*Having considered* that, to date, neither revision nor reconsideration has been granted to the Mexican nationals included in the Judgment of 31 March 2004,

<sup>472</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 4 (A/59/4)*, chap. V, sect. A.23.

<sup>473</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

<sup>474</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 4 (A/64/4)*, chap. V, sect. B.12.

<sup>475</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 4 (A/63/4)*, chap. V, sect. B.15.

*Considering* that six of the Mexican nationals included in the Judgment of 31 March 2004 have been executed,<sup>476</sup> in clear violation of the decision of the Court, constituting new breaches of the international obligations incumbent upon the United States of America and causing additional harm to Mexico,

*Urgently calls for* full and immediate compliance with the Judgment of the International Court of Justice of 31 March 2004 in the case concerning *Avena and Other Mexican Nationals*<sup>472</sup> in conformity with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations.

## RESOLUTION 73/258

Adopted at the 63rd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, by a recorded vote of 142 to none, with 12 abstentions,\* on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.72](#) and [A/73/L.72/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

\* *In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Belarus, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mali, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Zimbabwe

### 73/258. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution [71/250](#) of 22 December 2016 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons,

*Having received* the annual report for 2016 and the draft report for 2017 of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons on the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,<sup>477</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the annual report for 2016 and the draft report for 2017 of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons submitted on its behalf by its Director General;<sup>477</sup>

2. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing work of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons with regard to the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;<sup>478</sup>

<sup>476</sup> José Ernesto Medellín Rojas (2008), Humberto Leal García (2011), Edgar Tamayo Arias (2014), Ramiro Hernández Llanas (2014), Rubén Cárdenas Ramírez (2017) and Roberto Ramos Moreno (2018).

<sup>477</sup> See [A/73/97](#).

<sup>478</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1974, No. 33757.

3. *Commends* the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Chemical Weapons Convention and the founding of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, held on 29 April 2017;

4. *Welcomes* the effective and ongoing cooperation between the United Nations and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons as set out in the Agreement concerning the Relationship between the United Nations and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons;<sup>479</sup>

5. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction at its twenty-second session on the appointment of Mr. Fernando Arias as the Director General of the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons;<sup>480</sup>

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Conference of the States Parties on its fourth special session, held in The Hague on 26 and 27 June 2018, and also takes note of the decision adopted at the special session entitled “Addressing the threat from chemical weapons use”;<sup>481</sup>

7. *Recalls* Security Council resolution 2118 (2013) of 27 September 2013, in which, inter alia, the Council requested the Director General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to report to the Council, on a monthly basis, on the implementation of resolution 2118 (2013) and the decision of the Executive Council of the Organisation of 27 September 2013, also recalls paragraph 5 of Security Council resolution 2209 (2015) of 6 March 2015, in which the Council welcomed the intention of the Director General to include future reports of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons fact-finding mission in the Syrian Arab Republic, which was mandated to establish the facts surrounding allegations of the use of toxic chemicals for hostile purposes in the Syrian Arab Republic, as part of his monthly report to the Council, notes in this regard the transmission by the Director General of 22 monthly reports, as well as all reports of the fact-finding mission, during the reporting period, and expresses appreciation for the work done in this regard;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations”, the sub-item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons”.

## RESOLUTION 73/259

Adopted at the 63rd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.71](#) and [A/73/L.71/Add.1](#), sponsored by: Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Singapore (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations), Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

### 73/259. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the aims and purposes of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, as enshrined in the Bangkok Declaration of 8 August 1967,<sup>482</sup> in particular the maintenance of close and beneficial cooperation with existing international and regional organizations with similar aims and purposes,

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<sup>479</sup> Ibid., vol. 2160, No. 1240.

<sup>480</sup> See Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, document C-22/DEC.18.

<sup>481</sup> Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, document C-SS-4/DEC.3.

<sup>482</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1331, No. 22341.

*Noting* the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, which came into force on 15 December 2008,<sup>483</sup> particularly on upholding the Charter of the United Nations and international law,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the activities of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations are consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Recalling* all previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations,<sup>484</sup>

*Recalling also* the fiftieth anniversary of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in 2017, under the chairmanship of the Philippines, and its resolution [71/317](#) of 19 July 2017 on the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>485</sup>

*Welcoming* the participation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in the high-level meetings between the United Nations and regional organizations, as well as the collaboration between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to promote dialogue and cooperation among regional organizations in Asia and the Pacific,

*Recalling* the First to Ninth Summits of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations and the commitment of the leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Secretary-General of the United Nations to further deepen the comprehensive partnership between the two organizations,

*Welcoming* the adoption of the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations 2025: Forging Ahead Together and its three Community Blueprints, namely the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Political-Security Community Blueprint 2025, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Economic Community Blueprint 2025 and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint 2025, at the twenty-seventh Association of Southeast Asian Nations Summit, held in Kuala Lumpur in November 2015,

*Welcoming also* the adoption of the Vientiane Declaration on the Adoption of the Initiative for Association of Southeast Asian Nations Integration Work Plan III and the Vientiane Declaration on the Adoption of the Master Plan on Association of Southeast Asian Nations Connectivity 2025 at the twenty-eighth Association of Southeast Asian Nations Summit, held in Vientiane in September 2016,

*Recognizing* the efforts of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to strengthen its institutions, and in this regard welcoming the establishment of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Community on 31 December 2015,

*Welcoming* the adoption, in 2017, of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Declaration on Culture of Prevention for a Peaceful, Inclusive, Resilient, Healthy and Harmonious Society, which complements the culture of peace agenda of the United Nations,

1. *Welcomes* the progress in the implementation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Community Vision 2025, which will ensure lasting peace and stability, sustained economic growth, shared prosperity and social progress in the region;

2. *Reaffirms* the commitment of the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to develop the partnership between the two organizations, as described in the Memorandum of Understanding signed on 27 September 2007;

3. *Recognizes* the efforts of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations to further intensify and strengthen the level of and framework for cooperation between the two organizations through the

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<sup>483</sup> Ibid., vol. 2624, No. 46745.

<sup>484</sup> Resolutions [57/35](#), [59/5](#), [61/46](#), [63/35](#), [65/235](#), [67/110](#), [69/110](#) and [71/255](#).

<sup>485</sup> See [A/73/328-S/2018/592](#), sect. II.

implementation of the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations, issued on 19 November 2011 at the Fourth Summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations, held in Bali, Indonesia, and welcomes the adoption and progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations (2016–2020);

4. *Encourages* the United Nations, including the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and other relevant United Nations agencies, to continue to work closely with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>486</sup> and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Community Vision 2025, to promote complementarities between the two to ensure that regional integration efforts in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations reinforce the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals and vice versa, through developing a regional road map, as well as other concrete activities and projects under the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership;

5. *Recognizes* the efforts to establish the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue in Thailand in 2019 in order to enhance cooperation on sustainable development between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and external partners, including the United Nations and related agencies;

6. *Commends* the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Secretary-General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations for their efforts to hold annual meetings during the regular sessions of the General Assembly, with a view to further enhancing the Association of Southeast Asian Nations-United Nations partnership, including by reviewing, overseeing and directing the implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Encourages* the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to continue regular meetings of senior officials, ministerial meetings and summits, and in this regard welcomes the convening of the Ninth Summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations in Manila on 13 November 2017;

8. *Welcomes* the successful convening of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations leaders' gathering with the Secretary-General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund and the President of the World Bank in Bali, on 11 October 2018, which reaffirmed the importance of the role of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in promoting multilateralism, further enhancing existing cooperation and forging close cooperation with the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the United Nations to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in improving the lives of its peoples;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations to provide strengthened support, including through exchanges of relevant experiences, information, best practices, lessons learned and capacity-building, based on mutual respect, for the relevant Association of Southeast Asian Nations mechanisms and Association of Southeast Asian Nations-led arrangements;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance of enhancing regional security and cooperation and the peaceful settlement of disputes to promote peace, stability and prosperity, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Charter of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia and international law;

11. *Supports* the convening of workshops and seminars between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations to promote dialogue on regional and global security issues, including conflict prevention, preventive diplomacy, disarmament and non-proliferation, cybersecurity, peacekeeping operations, transnational crime, counter-terrorism and the prevention of violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, based on mutual trust, shared interests and mutual respect;

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<sup>486</sup> Resolution 70/1.



12. *Encourages* cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to exchange expertise, best practices, lessons learned and experiences in countering terrorism and radicalization to terrorism and preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, as well as in addressing transnational crime and cross-border challenges, including through effective regional cooperation, in order to foster a more secure, interconnected and prosperous Association of Southeast Asian Nations community;

13. *Also encourages* cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in the field of human rights, particularly through the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children, based on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Human Rights Declaration, the Phnom Penh Statement on the Adoption of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Human Rights Declaration, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>487</sup> and other international human rights instruments and mechanisms to which all of the States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations are parties;

14. *Acknowledges* the importance of maritime cooperation, including maritime security cooperation, between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, including in the form of training workshops and the exchange of relevant experiences, information, best practices and lessons learned, to further promote the rule of law and the implementation of relevant international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,<sup>488</sup> and other international instruments, and underscores the need to further strengthen such cooperation in order to address related issues and challenges;

15. *Reiterates* the importance of regional integration and enhancement of connectivity in the South-East Asian region and their potential contribution to regional and global peace, prosperity and sustainable development, and in this regard encourages cooperation between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations to narrow the development gap within and between the States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations;

16. *Encourages* continued efforts and enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations towards deepening economic integration both within the region and in the global economy so as to promote mutual benefits through capacity-building and advisory services in the implementation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Economic Community Blueprint 2025 in areas such as trade, investment, the development of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, regulatory frameworks, global supply chains and resource management;

17. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Smart Cities Network as part of the integration efforts of the Association that will synergise development efforts, promote greater cooperation among member cities, the private sector and external partners, spearhead smart city development and sustainable urbanization, with the goal of improving the lives of the citizens of the States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations using technology and digital infrastructure as enablers, and facilitate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals;

18. *Also welcomes* the Association of Southeast Asian Nations-led arrangements, in particular the meeting of the Ministers of Defence and experts working group on peacekeeping operations of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations on various important issues related to peacekeeping operations, including improvement in the meaningful participation of women peacekeepers from States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations at all levels and key positions, and encourages efforts to implement joint peacekeeping and peacebuilding-related activities under the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations (2016–2020);

19. *Encourages* collaboration between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Mine Action Centre, including the sharing of expertise and best practices, training and capacity-building activities, in addressing the humanitarian aspects of landmines and explosive remnants of war;

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<sup>487</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>488</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

## I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

20. *Also encourages* closer cooperation on disaster management between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in order to ensure an effective response to and management of natural disasters, through the implementation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations-United Nations Joint Strategic Plan of Action on Disaster Management 2016–2020, and to enhance the capacity of and technical support to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management;

21. *Takes note with appreciation* of the ongoing work of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management in addressing disaster management, emergency response and humanitarian assistance in the region;

22. *Encourages* closer cooperation on the culture of peace agenda between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, including through the six thrusts of the 2017 Association of Southeast Asian Nations Declaration on Culture of Prevention for a Peaceful, Inclusive, Resilient, Healthy and Harmonious Society;

23. *Also encourages* further cooperation and collaborative efforts between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations on addressing environmental sustainability, climate change and the protection, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems, including the prevention and reduction of marine plastic debris, and welcomes the adoption of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations-United Nations Action Plan on Environment and Climate Change (2017–2020) in September 2017;

24. *Further encourages* the exploration of measures by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations to further the effective and timely implementation of joint activities under the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership;

25. *Encourages* the conduct of the Secretariat-to-Secretariat annual review on the implementation of the comprehensive partnership to identify challenges and discuss practical modalities for the two Secretariats to effectively contribute to enhancing Association of Southeast Asian Nations and United Nations cooperation, and takes note with appreciation of the Secretariat-to-Secretariat engagements, which contribute to the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-fifth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

27. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations”, the sub-item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations”.

### RESOLUTION 73/267

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, by a recorded vote of 155 to none, with 3 abstentions,\* on the basis of draft resolution [A/73/L.23](#), sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

\* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Côte d'Ivoire, Republic of Korea, Syrian Arab Republic



**73/267. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions relevant to cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,

*Recalling also* article 3 of the Charter of the League of Arab States,<sup>489</sup> which entrusts the Council of the League with the function of determining the means whereby it will collaborate with international organizations to guarantee international peace and security and organize and strengthen relations in all fields,

*Taking into consideration* the report of the Secretary-General entitled “An Agenda for Peace”,<sup>490</sup> and in particular section VII concerning cooperation with regional organizations, and the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Supplement to an Agenda for Peace”,<sup>491</sup>

*Recognizing* the need for further strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States in the pursuit of the common goals and objectives of the two organizations,

*Taking note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,<sup>492</sup>

*Commending* the resolutions and recommendations of the thirteenth sectoral meeting between the United Nations and the League of Arab States and their specialized organizations, held in Cairo in October 2017, on the theme “Cooperation on the preservation and management of water resources in the Arab region”, as well as the fourteenth general cooperation meeting between the United Nations and the League of Arab States, held in Geneva in July 2018, at which challenges and threats undermining international peace and stability, as well as the strengthening of joint cooperation in all areas between the two organizations, were addressed,

*Welcoming* the formation of the high-level working group to follow up on the implementation of the provisions of the protocol of amendment of the text of the cooperation agreement between the two organizations, which held its first meeting in Geneva in July 2018, at which participants agreed that cooperation between the Secretariat of the United Nations and the secretariat of the League of Arab States in practical terms had reached an advanced stage, that the concerned parties would make further efforts to strengthen cooperative ties in the future, and that the opening of a liaison office to the League of Arab States in Cairo would support and consolidate their partnership in the fields addressed in the protocol,

1. *Welcomes* the fact that Egypt has agreed to the opening of the United Nations liaison office to the League of Arab States in Cairo with the aim of improving the effectiveness of cooperation between the two organizations, and requests that the Secretariat of the United Nations coordinate with Egypt to expedite the opening of the office and, in cooperation with the secretariat of the League of Arab States, to finish preparing and adopt the terms of reference defining the functions and mandate of the United Nations office, and, in that context, requests the Secretariat of the United Nations and the secretariat of the League of Arab States to continue convening meetings of the high-level working group to follow up on the implementation of the provisions of the protocol, until the liaison office is opened in Cairo;

2. *Requests* the Secretariat of the United Nations and the secretariat of the League of Arab States to continue their periodic consultations, at all levels, in order to exchange information, and review and strengthen coordination and follow-up mechanisms, particularly in the political and security fields;

3. *Emphasizes* that it is crucial and important to intensify coordination between the League of Arab States and the two United Nations special envoys addressing the current crises in the Arab region, with a view to reaching a more comprehensive understanding of the crises in the region, strengthening the capacity of the two organizations and developing effective solutions through joint action;

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<sup>489</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 70, No. 241.

<sup>490</sup> [A/47/277-S/24111](#).

<sup>491</sup> [A/50/60-S/1995/1](#).

<sup>492</sup> [A/73/328-S/2018/592](#).

## **I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee**

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4. *Calls upon* United Nations specialized agencies, programmes and institutions to continue their interaction with their counterparts from Arab organizations and institutions and to improve mechanisms for consultation with them, in order to implement mutually agreed projects and programmes and to make the greatest possible use of Arab institutions and their technical expertise in implementing projects in the Arab region;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of holding the fourteenth sectoral meeting between the two organizations and their specialized agencies, to be held at the Headquarters of the League of Arab States in 2019, for which the dates and theme will be agreed by the two secretariats in due course, and the fifteenth general cooperation meeting between the two organizations, to be held at the United Nations centre in Vienna in 2020, for which the dates will be agreed by the two secretariats in due course;

6. *Calls upon* the specialized agencies, organizations and programmes of the United Nations to inform the Secretary-General, no later than January 2020, of the progress made in their cooperation with the League of Arab States and, in particular, the implementation of the multilateral decisions and programmes adopted at the fourteenth general cooperation meeting between the two organizations;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations”, the sub-item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States”.



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RESOLUTION 73/26

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/503, para. 7)<sup>1</sup>

**73/26. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/53 of 10 December 1996 and 56/17 of 29 November 2001 and all its other relevant resolutions, as well as those of the Organization of African Unity and of the African Union,

*Recalling also* the signing of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba) in Cairo on 11 April 1996,<sup>2</sup>

*Recalling further* the Cairo Declaration adopted on that occasion,<sup>3</sup> in which it was emphasized that nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in regions of tension, such as the Middle East, enhance global and regional peace and security,

*Recalling* the statement made by the President of the Security Council on behalf of the members of the Council on 12 April 1996,<sup>4</sup> in which the Council affirmed that the signature of the Treaty constituted an important contribution by the African countries to the maintenance of international peace and security,

*Considering* that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in the Middle East, would enhance the security of Africa and the viability of the African nuclear-weapon-free zone,

1. *Recalls with satisfaction* the entry into force of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)<sup>2</sup> on 15 July 2009;

2. *Calls upon* African States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Treaty as soon as possible;

3. *Recalls* the convening of the first Conference of States Parties to the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba), on 4 November 2010, the second Conference of States Parties, on 12 and 13 November 2012, the third Conference of States Parties, on 29 and 30 May 2014, and the fourth Conference of States Parties, on 14 and 15 March 2018, all held in Addis Ababa;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the nuclear-weapon States that have signed the Protocols to the Treaty<sup>2</sup> that concern them, and calls upon those that have not yet ratified the Protocols that concern them to do so as soon as possible;

5. *Calls upon* the States contemplated in Protocol III to the Treaty that have not yet done so to take all measures necessary to ensure the speedy application of the Treaty to territories for which they are, de jure or de facto, internationally responsible and which lie within the limits of the geographical zone established in the Treaty;

6. *Calls upon* the African States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons<sup>5</sup> that have not yet done so to conclude comprehensive safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency pursuant to the Treaty, thereby satisfying the requirements of article 9 (b) and annex II to the Treaty of Pelindaba, and encourages them to conclude additional protocols to their safeguards agreements on the basis of the model protocol approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 15 May 1997;

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<sup>1</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Canada, Georgia, Haiti, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Trinidad and Tobago and Turkey.

<sup>2</sup> A/50/426, annex.

<sup>3</sup> A/51/113-S/1996/276, annex.

<sup>4</sup> S/PRST/1996/17; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1996* (S/INF/52).

<sup>5</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

7. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the diligence with which they have rendered effective assistance to the signatories to the Treaty;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty”.

### RESOLUTION 73/27

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/505, para. 11),<sup>6</sup> by a recorded vote of 119 to 46, with 14 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, Eswatini, Fiji, Haiti, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Switzerland, Turkey

### 73/27. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 36/103 of 9 December 1981, 43/78 H of 7 December 1988, 53/70 of 4 December 1998, 54/49 of 1 December 1999, 55/28 of 20 November 2000, 56/19 of 29 November 2001, 57/53 of 22 November 2002, 58/32 of 8 December 2003, 59/61 of 3 December 2004, 60/45 of 8 December 2005, 61/54 of 6 December 2006, 62/17 of 5 December 2007, 63/37 of 2 December 2008, 64/25 of 2 December 2009, 65/41 of 8 December 2010, 66/24 of 2 December 2011, 67/27 of 3 December 2012, 68/243 of 27 December 2013, 69/28 of 2 December 2014, 70/237 of 23 December 2015 and 71/28 of 5 December 2016,

*Noting* that considerable progress has been achieved in developing and applying the latest information technologies and means of telecommunication,

*Underscoring* the aspirations of the international community to the peaceful use of information and communications technologies (ICTs) for the common good of humankind and to further the sustainable development of all countries, irrespective of their scientific and technological development,

*Noting* that capacity-building is essential for cooperation of States and confidence-building in the field of ICT security,

<sup>6</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Guinea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Malawi, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe.



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*Recognizing* that some States may require assistance in their efforts to bridge the divide in the security of ICTs and their use,

*Noting* that providing assistance, upon request, to build capacity in the area of ICT security is essential for international security,

*Affirming* that capacity-building measures should seek to promote the use of ICTs for peaceful purposes,

*Confirming* that ICTs are dual-use technologies and can be used for both legitimate and malicious purposes,

*Expressing concern* that a number of States are developing ICT capabilities for military purposes and that the use of ICTs in future conflicts between States is becoming more likely,

*Stressing* that it is in the interest of all States to promote the use of ICTs for peaceful purposes, with the objective of shaping a community of shared future for humankind in cyberspace, and that States also have an interest in preventing conflict arising from the use of ICTs,

*Noting* that the United Nations should play a leading role in promoting dialogue among Member States to develop common understandings on the security of and the use of ICTs, as well as in developing common understandings on the application of international law and norms, rules and principles for responsible State behaviour in this sphere, encourage regional efforts, promote confidence-building and transparency measures and support capacity-building and the dissemination of best practices,

*Expressing concern* that embedding harmful hidden functions in ICTs could be used in ways that would affect secure and reliable ICT use and the ICT supply chain for products and services, erode trust in commerce and damage national security,

*Considering* that it is necessary to prevent the use of information resources or technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes,

*Underlining* the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the use of ICTs,

*Welcoming* the effective work of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security and the relevant outcome reports transmitted by the Secretary-General,<sup>7</sup>

*Welcoming also* that, in considering the application of international law to State use of ICTs, the Group of Governmental Experts, in its 2015 report,<sup>8</sup> identified as of central importance the commitments of States to the following principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other international law: sovereign equality; the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered; refraining in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations; respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms; and non-intervention in the internal affairs of other States,

*Confirming* the conclusions of the Group of Governmental Experts, in its 2013<sup>9</sup> and 2015<sup>8</sup> reports, that international law, and in particular the Charter of the United Nations, is applicable and essential to maintaining peace and stability and promoting an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful ICT environment, that voluntary and non-binding norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviour of States in the use of ICTs can reduce risks to international peace, security and stability, and that, given the unique attributes of such technologies, additional norms can be developed over time,

*Confirming also* that State sovereignty and international norms and principles that flow from sovereignty apply to State conduct of ICT-related activities and to their jurisdiction over ICT infrastructure within their territory,

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<sup>7</sup> A/65/201, A/68/98 and A/70/174.

<sup>8</sup> A/70/174.

<sup>9</sup> A/68/98.

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*Reaffirming* the right and duty of States to combat, within their constitutional prerogatives, the dissemination of false or distorted news, which can be interpreted as interference in the internal affairs of other States or as being harmful to the promotion of peace, cooperation and friendly relations among States and nations,

*Recognizing* the duty of a State to abstain from any defamatory campaign, vilification or hostile propaganda for the purpose of intervening or interfering in the internal affairs of other States,

*Stressing* that, while States have a primary responsibility for maintaining a secure and peaceful ICT environment, effective international cooperation would benefit from identifying mechanisms for the participation, as appropriate, of the private sector, academia and civil society organizations,

1. *Welcomes* the following set of international rules, norms and principles of responsible behaviour of States, enshrined in the reports of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security of 2013<sup>9</sup> and 2015<sup>8</sup> adopted by consensus and recommended in resolution [71/28](#) entitled “Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security”, adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2016:

1.1. Consistent with the purposes of the United Nations, including to maintain international peace and security, States should cooperate in developing and applying measures to increase stability and security in the use of ICTs and to prevent ICT practices that are acknowledged to be harmful or that may pose threats to international peace and security.

1.2. States must meet their international obligations regarding internationally wrongful acts attributable to them under international law. However, the indication that an ICT activity was launched or otherwise originates from the territory or objects of the ICT infrastructure of a State may be insufficient in itself to attribute the activity to that State. Accusations of organizing and implementing wrongful acts brought against States should be substantiated. In case of ICT incidents, States should consider all relevant information, including the larger context of the event, the challenges of attribution in the ICT environment and the nature and extent of the consequences.

1.3. States should not knowingly allow their territory to be used for internationally wrongful acts using ICTs. States must not use proxies to commit internationally wrongful acts using ICTs and should seek to ensure that their territory is not used by non-State actors to commit such acts.

1.4. States should consider how best to cooperate to exchange information, assist each other, prosecute terrorist and criminal use of ICTs and implement other cooperative measures to address such threats. States may need to consider whether new measures need to be developed in this respect.

1.5. States, in ensuring the secure use of ICTs, should respect Human Rights Council resolutions [20/8](#) of 5 July 2012<sup>10</sup> and [26/13](#) of 26 June 2014<sup>11</sup> on the promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the Internet, as well as General Assembly resolutions [68/167](#) of 18 December 2013 and [69/166](#) of 18 December 2014 on the right to privacy in the digital age, to guarantee full respect for human rights, including the right to freedom of expression.

1.6. A State should not conduct or knowingly support ICT activity contrary to its obligations under international law that intentionally damages critical infrastructure or otherwise impairs the use and operation of critical infrastructure to provide services to the public.

1.7. States should take appropriate measures to protect their critical infrastructure from ICT threats, taking into account General Assembly resolution [58/199](#) of 23 December 2003 on the creation of a global culture of cybersecurity and the protection of critical information infrastructures, and other relevant resolutions.

1.8. States should respond to appropriate requests for assistance by another State whose critical infrastructure is subject to malicious ICT acts. States should also respond to appropriate requests to mitigate malicious ICT activity aimed at the critical infrastructure of another State emanating from their territory, taking into account due regard for sovereignty.

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<sup>10</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum ([A/67/53](#) and [A/67/53/Corr.1](#)), chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53* ([A/69/53](#)), chap. V, sect. A.

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1.9. States should take reasonable steps to ensure the integrity of the supply chain so that end users can have confidence in the security of ICT products.

1.10. States should seek to prevent the proliferation of malicious ICT tools and techniques and the use of harmful hidden functions.

1.11. States should encourage responsible reporting of ICT vulnerabilities and share associated information on available remedies for such vulnerabilities to limit and possibly eliminate potential threats to ICTs and ICT-dependent infrastructure.

1.12. States should not conduct or knowingly support activity to harm the information systems of the authorized emergency response teams (sometimes known as computer emergency response teams or cybersecurity incident response teams) of another State. A State should not use authorized emergency response teams to engage in malicious international activity.

1.13. States should encourage the private sector and civil society to play an appropriate role to improve security of and in the use of ICTs, including supply chain security for ICT products and services. States should cooperate with the private sector and the organizations of civil society in the sphere of implementation of rules of responsible behaviour in information space with regard to their potential role;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to promote further, at multilateral levels, the consideration of existing and potential threats in the field of information security, as well as possible strategies to address the threats emerging in this field, consistent with the need to preserve the free flow of information;

3. *Considers* that the purpose of such measures could be served through further examination of relevant international concepts aimed at strengthening the security of global information and telecommunications systems;

4. *Invites* all Member States, taking into account the assessments and recommendations contained in the reports of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security,<sup>7</sup> to continue to inform the Secretary-General of their views and assessments on the following questions:

(a) General appreciation of the issues of information security;

(b) Efforts taken at the national level to strengthen information security and promote international cooperation in this field;

(c) The content of the concepts mentioned in paragraph 3 above;

(d) Possible measures that could be taken by the international community to strengthen information security at the global level;

5. *Decides* to convene, beginning in 2019, with a view to making the United Nations negotiation process on security in the use of information and communications technologies more democratic, inclusive and transparent, an open-ended working group acting on a consensus basis, to continue, as a priority, to further develop the rules, norms and principles of responsible behaviour of States listed in paragraph 1 above, and the ways for their implementation; if necessary, to introduce changes to them or elaborate additional rules of behaviour; to study the possibility of establishing regular institutional dialogue with broad participation under the auspices of the United Nations; and to continue to study, with a view to promoting common understandings, existing and potential threats in the sphere of information security and possible cooperative measures to address them and how international law applies to the use of information and communications technologies by States, as well as confidence-building measures and capacity-building and the concepts referred to in paragraph 3 above, and to submit a report on the results of the study to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, and to provide the possibility of holding, from within voluntary contributions, intersessional consultative meetings with the interested parties, namely business, non-governmental organizations and academia, to share views on the issues within the group's mandate;

6. *Also decides* that the open-ended working group shall hold its organizational session in June 2019 in order to agree on the organizational arrangements connected with the group;

7. *Further decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security".

### RESOLUTION 73/28

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/506, para. 7),<sup>12</sup> by a recorded vote of 171 to 2, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

#### **73/28. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 3263 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3474 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/71 of 10 December 1976, 32/82 of 12 December 1977, 33/64 of 14 December 1978, 34/77 of 11 December 1979, 35/147 of 12 December 1980, 36/87 A and B of 9 December 1981, 37/75 of 9 December 1982, 38/64 of 15 December 1983, 39/54 of 12 December 1984, 40/82 of 12 December 1985, 41/48 of 3 December 1986, 42/28 of 30 November 1987, 43/65 of 7 December 1988, 44/108 of 15 December 1989, 45/52 of 4 December 1990, 46/30 of 6 December 1991, 47/48 of 9 December 1992, 48/71 of 16 December 1993, 49/71 of 15 December 1994, 50/66 of 12 December 1995, 51/41 of 10 December 1996, 52/34 of 9 December 1997, 53/74 of 4 December 1998, 54/51 of 1 December 1999, 55/30 of 20 November 2000, 56/21 of 29 November 2001, 57/55 of 22 November 2002, 58/34 of 8 December 2003, 59/63 of 3 December 2004, 60/52 of 8 December 2005, 61/56 of 6 December 2006, 62/18 of 5 December 2007, 63/38 of 2 December 2008, 64/26 of 2 December 2009, 65/42 of 8 December 2010, 66/25 of 2 December 2011, 67/28 of 3 December 2012, 68/27 of 5 December 2013, 69/29 of 2 December 2014, 70/24 of 7 December 2015, 71/29 of 5 December 2016 and 72/24 of 4 December 2017 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

*Recalling also* the recommendations for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East consistent with paragraphs 60 to 63, and in particular paragraph 63 (d), of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,<sup>13</sup>

*Emphasizing* the basic provisions of the above-mentioned resolutions, in which all parties directly concerned are called upon to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East and, pending and during the establishment of such a zone, to declare solemnly that they will refrain, on a reciprocal basis, from producing, acquiring or in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices and from permitting the stationing of nuclear weapons on their territory by any third party, to agree to place their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and to declare their support for the establishment of the zone and to deposit such declarations with the Security Council for consideration, as appropriate,

*Reaffirming* the inalienable right of all States to acquire and develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

<sup>12</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt.

<sup>13</sup> Resolution S-10/2.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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*Emphasizing* the need for appropriate measures on the question of the prohibition of military attacks on nuclear facilities,

*Bearing in mind* the consensus reached by the General Assembly since its thirty-fifth session that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East would greatly enhance international peace and security,

*Desirous* of building on that consensus so that substantial progress can be made towards establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

*Welcoming* all initiatives leading to general and complete disarmament, including in the region of the Middle East, and in particular on the establishment therein of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons,

*Noting* the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

*Recognizing* the importance of credible regional security, including the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

*Emphasizing* the essential role of the United Nations in the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 72/24,<sup>14</sup>

1. *Urges* all parties directly concerned seriously to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and, as a means of promoting this objective, invites the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;<sup>15</sup>

2. *Calls upon* all countries of the region that have not yet done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

3. *Takes note* of resolution GC(62)/RES/12, adopted on 20 September 2018 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its sixty-second regular session, concerning the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East;

4. *Notes* the importance of the ongoing bilateral Middle East peace negotiations and the activities of the multilateral Working Group on Arms Control and Regional Security in promoting mutual confidence and security in the Middle East, including the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

5. *Invites* all countries of the region, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with paragraph 63 (d) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,<sup>13</sup> and to deposit those declarations with the Security Council;

6. *Also invites* those countries, pending the establishment of the zone, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories, or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices;

7. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States and all other States to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and the spirit of the present resolution;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 72/24;<sup>14</sup>

9. *Invites* all parties to consider the appropriate means that may contribute towards the goal of general and complete disarmament and the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the region of the Middle East;

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<sup>14</sup> A/73/182 (Part I).

<sup>15</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

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10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to pursue consultations with the States of the region and other concerned States, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 46/30 and taking into account the evolving situation in the region, and to seek from those States their views on the measures outlined in chapters III and IV of the study annexed to the report of the Secretary-General of 10 October 1990<sup>16</sup> or other relevant measures, in order to move towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East”.

### RESOLUTION 73/29

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/507, para. 7),<sup>17</sup> by a recorded vote of 125 to none, with 58 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

#### **73/29. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons**

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* the need to allay the legitimate concern of the States of the world with regard to ensuring lasting security for their peoples,

*Convinced* that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to humankind and to the survival of civilization,

*Noting* that the renewed interest in nuclear disarmament should be translated into concrete actions for the achievement of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

*Convinced* that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

*Determined* to abide strictly by the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or threat of force,

<sup>16</sup> A/45/435.

<sup>17</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Cuba, Egypt, Ghana, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Libya, Namibia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Uzbekistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).



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*Recognizing* that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of force, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Considering* that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures and arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

*Recognizing* that effective measures and arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can contribute positively to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons,

*Bearing in mind* paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,<sup>18</sup> in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and desirous of promoting the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Document,

*Recalling* the relevant parts of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament<sup>19</sup> submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament,<sup>20</sup> and of the special report of the Conference on Disarmament submitted to the Assembly at its fifteenth special session, the third special session devoted to disarmament,<sup>21</sup> as well as the report of the Conference on its 1992 session,<sup>22</sup>

*Recalling also* paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution [35/46](#) of 3 December 1980, in which it is stated, *inter alia*, that all efforts should be exerted by the Committee on Disarmament urgently to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Noting* the in-depth negotiations undertaken in the Conference on Disarmament and its Ad Hoc Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>23</sup> with a view to reaching agreement on this question,

*Taking note* of the proposals submitted under the item in the Conference on Disarmament, including the drafts of an international convention,

*Taking note also* of the relevant decision of the Thirteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Kuala Lumpur on 24 and 25 February 2003,<sup>24</sup> which was reiterated at the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, as well as the relevant recommendations of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation,

*Taking note further* of the unilateral declarations made by all the nuclear-weapon States on their policies of non-use or non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against the non-nuclear-weapon States,

*Noting* the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, as well as the difficulties pointed out in evolving a common approach acceptable to all,

*Taking note* of Security Council resolution [984 \(1995\)](#) of 11 April 1995 and the views expressed on it,

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions adopted in previous years, in particular resolutions [45/54](#) of 4 December 1990, [46/32](#) of 6 December 1991, [47/50](#) of 9 December 1992, [48/73](#) of 16 December 1993, [49/73](#) of 15 December 1994, [50/68](#) of 12 December 1995, [51/43](#) of 10 December 1996, [52/36](#) of 9 December 1997, [53/75](#) of 4 December 1998, [54/52](#) of 1 December 1999, [55/31](#) of 20 November 2000, [56/22](#) of 29 November 2001, [57/56](#) of 22 November

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<sup>18</sup> Resolution [S-10/2](#).

<sup>19</sup> The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

<sup>20</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Supplement No. 2 (A/S-12/2)*, sect. III.C.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*, *Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 2 (A/S-15/2)*, sect. III.F.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*, *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/47/27)*, sect. III.F.

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*, *Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/48/27)*, sect. III.E.

<sup>24</sup> See [A/57/759-S/2003/332](#), annex I.



## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

2002, 58/35 of 8 December 2003, 59/64 of 3 December 2004, 60/53 of 8 December 2005, 61/57 of 6 December 2006, 62/19 of 5 December 2007, 63/39 of 2 December 2008, 64/27 of 2 December 2009, 65/43 of 8 December 2010, 66/26 of 2 December 2011, 67/29 of 3 December 2012, 68/28 of 5 December 2013, 69/30 of 2 December 2014, 70/25 of 7 December 2015, 71/30 of 5 December 2016 and 72/25 of 4 December 2017,

1. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to reach an early agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;
2. *Notes with satisfaction* that in the Conference on Disarmament there is no objection, in principle, to the idea of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, although the difficulties with regard to evolving a common approach acceptable to all have also been pointed out;
3. *Appeals* to all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to work actively towards an early agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula that could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character;
4. *Recommends* that further intensive efforts be devoted to the search for such a common approach or common formula and that the various alternative approaches, including, in particular, those considered in the Conference on Disarmament, be further explored in order to overcome the difficulties;
5. *Also recommends* that the Conference on Disarmament actively continue intensive negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international agreements to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective;
6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons”.

### RESOLUTION 73/30

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/508, para. 11),<sup>25</sup> by a recorded vote of 178 to 2, with no abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstaining:* None

<sup>25</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Eswatini, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Samoa, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

### 73/30. Prevention of an arms race in outer space

*The General Assembly,*

*Recognizing* the common interest of all humankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

*Reaffirming* the will of all States that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be for peaceful purposes and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development,

*Reaffirming also* the provisions of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,<sup>26</sup>

*Recalling* the obligation of all States to observe the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the use or threat of use of force in their international relations, including in their space activities,

*Reaffirming* paragraph 80 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,<sup>27</sup> in which it is stated that, in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, further measures should be taken and appropriate international negotiations held in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on this issue, the most recent of which is resolution [72/26](#) of 4 December 2017, and taking note of the proposals submitted to the General Assembly at its tenth special session and at its regular sessions and of the recommendations made to the competent organs of the United Nations and to the Conference on Disarmament,

*Recognizing* that the prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger for international peace and security,

*Emphasizing* the paramount importance of strict compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament agreements relevant to outer space, including bilateral agreements, and with the existing legal regime concerning the use of outer space,

*Considering* that wide participation in the legal regime applicable to outer space could contribute to enhancing its effectiveness,

*Noting* that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, taking into account its previous efforts since its establishment in 1985 and seeking to enhance its functioning in qualitative terms, continued the examination and identification of various issues, existing agreements and existing proposals, as well as future initiatives relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and that this contributed to a better understanding of a number of problems and to a clearer perception of the various positions,

*Noting also* that there were no objections in principle in the Conference on Disarmament to the re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee, subject to re-examination of the mandate contained in the decision of the Conference on Disarmament of 13 February 1992,<sup>28</sup>

*Emphasizing* the mutually complementary nature of bilateral and multilateral efforts for the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and hoping that concrete results will emerge from those efforts as soon as possible,

*Convinced* that further measures should be examined in the search for effective and verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, including the weaponization of outer space,

*Stressing* that the growing use of outer space increases the need for greater transparency and better information on the part of the international community,

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<sup>26</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

<sup>27</sup> Resolution [S-10/2](#).

<sup>28</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/47/27)*, para. 76.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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*Recalling*, in this context, its previous resolutions, in particular resolutions [45/55 B](#) of 4 December 1990, [47/51](#) of 9 December 1992 and [48/74 A](#) of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, it reaffirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

*Conscious* of the benefits of confidence- and security-building measures in the military field,

*Recognizing* that negotiations for the conclusion of an international agreement or agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space remain a priority task of the Conference on Disarmament and that the concrete proposals on confidence-building measures could form an integral part of such agreements,

*Noting with satisfaction* the constructive, structured and focused debate on the prevention of an arms race in outer space at the Conference on Disarmament each year from 2009 to 2018,

*Noting* the introduction by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament of the draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects in 2008 and the submission of its updated version in 2014,<sup>29</sup>

*Taking note* of the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to establish for its 2009 session a working group to discuss, substantially, without limitation, all issues related to the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and the decision to establish for its 2018 session a subsidiary body on the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space and the readiness of all States to contribute to that common objective, in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies;<sup>26</sup>

2. *Reaffirms* its recognition, as stated in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, that the legal regime applicable to outer space by itself does not guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, that the regime plays a significant role in the prevention of an arms race in that environment, that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime and enhance its effectiveness and that it is important to comply strictly with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral;

3. *Emphasizes* the necessity of further measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space;

4. *Calls upon* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to refrain from actions contrary to that objective and to the relevant existing treaties in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

6. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to establish a working group under its agenda item entitled “Prevention of an arms race in outer space” as early as possible;

7. *Recognizes*, in this respect, the growing convergence of views on the elaboration of measures designed to strengthen transparency, confidence and security in the peaceful uses of outer space;

8. *Urges* States conducting activities in outer space, as well as States interested in conducting such activities, to keep the Conference on Disarmament informed of the progress of bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the matter, if any, so as to facilitate its work;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Prevention of an arms race in outer space”.

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<sup>29</sup> See [CD/1839](#) and [CD/1985](#).

RESOLUTION 73/31

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/508, para. 11),<sup>30</sup> by a recorded vote of 128 to 12, with 40 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Estonia, France, Georgia, Hungary, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Eswatini, Finland, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Tuvalu

**73/31. No first placement of weapons in outer space**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recognizing* the common interest of all humankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

*Seriously concerned* about the possibility of an arms race in outer space and of outer space turning into an arena for military confrontation, and bearing in mind the importance of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,<sup>31</sup>

*Conscious* that the prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger to international peace and security,

*Reaffirming* that practical measures should be examined and taken in the search for agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space in a common effort towards a community of shared future for humankind,

*Emphasizing* the paramount importance of strict compliance with the existing legal regime providing for the peaceful use of outer space,

*Reaffirming its recognition* that the legal regime applicable to outer space by itself does not guarantee prevention of an arms race in outer space and that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime,

*Convinced* that such measures could critically improve conditions for efficiently addressing the threat of an arms race in outer space, including the placement of weapons in outer space,

<sup>30</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

<sup>31</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

*Welcoming*, in this regard, the draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects, introduced by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament in 2008,<sup>32</sup> and the submission of its updated version in 2014,<sup>33</sup>

*Considering* that transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities are an integral part of the draft treaty referred to above,

*Recalling* its resolutions [69/32](#) of 2 December 2014, [70/27](#) of 7 December 2015, [71/32](#) of 5 December 2016 and [72/27](#) of 4 December 2017, and its resolutions [45/55 B](#) of 4 December 1990 and [48/74 B](#) of 16 December 1993, which, inter alia, confirm the importance of transparency and confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of preventing an arms race in outer space,

*Noting* the importance of the political statements made by a number of States<sup>34</sup> that they would not be the first to place weapons in outer space,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of the objective of preventing an arms race in outer space and the willingness of States to contribute to reaching this common goal;

2. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral negotiating forum on this subject,<sup>35</sup> has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement, or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

3. *Urges* an early commencement of substantive work based on the updated draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects,<sup>33</sup> introduced by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament in 2008,<sup>32</sup> under the agenda item entitled “Prevention of an arms race in outer space”;

4. *Stresses* that, while such an agreement is not yet concluded, other measures may contribute to ensuring that weapons are not placed in outer space;

5. *Encourages* all States, especially spacefaring nations, to consider the possibility of upholding, as appropriate, a political commitment not to be the first to place weapons in outer space;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Prevention of an arms race in outer space”, the sub-item entitled “No first placement of weapons in outer space”.

### RESOLUTION 73/32

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/509](#), para. 8)<sup>36</sup>

#### **73/32. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recognizing* that scientific and technological developments can have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needs to be maintained and encouraged,

*Underlining* the keen interest of the international community to keep abreast of the latest developments in science and technology of relevance to international security and disarmament and to channel scientific and technological developments for beneficial purposes,

<sup>32</sup> See [CD/1839](#).

<sup>33</sup> See [CD/1985](#).

<sup>34</sup> Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tajikistan, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

<sup>35</sup> See resolution [S-10/2](#).

<sup>36</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Canada, Central African Republic, Croatia, Finland, Germany, Guinea, India, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Mauritius, Montenegro, Netherlands, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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*Mindful* of the need to regulate the transfer of technologies for peaceful uses, in accordance with relevant international obligations, to address the risk of proliferation by States or non-State actors,

*Acknowledging* the need to continue the exchange of technologies for peaceful uses, including in accordance with relevant international obligations,

*Mindful* of the rights of States, reflected in relevant international agreements, regarding the development, production, transfer and use of technologies for peaceful purposes, in accordance with relevant international obligations, as well as the need for all Member States to fulfil their obligations in relation to arms control and disarmament and to prevent proliferation in all its aspects of all weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

*Cognizant* of the discussions on developments in science and technology at the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and within the meetings of experts on science and technology under the 2018–2020 intersessional programme established by the 2017 Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,

*Cognizant also* of the discussions in the Conference on Disarmament in 2018 under its subsidiary body 5,

*Mindful* of the discussions in other forums, such as the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, on the long-term sustainability of outer space activities and on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in the United Nations disarmament machinery,

*Noting* the discussions on various dimensions of emerging technologies under the framework of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,<sup>37</sup> and welcoming the adoption of the report of the 2018 session of the Group of Governmental Experts on lethal autonomous weapons systems, including the section on emerging commonalities, conclusions and recommendations,

*Noting also* the discussions within the United Nations and the specialized agencies on developments in the field of information and communications technologies, including in the context of international security,

*Acknowledging* that the accelerating pace of technological change necessitates a system-wide assessment of the potential impact of developments in science and technology on international security and disarmament, with due regard to avoiding duplication and complementing efforts already under way in United Nations entities and in the framework of the relevant international conventions,

*Noting* the discussions on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts in the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters during its sixty-ninth and seventieth sessions, in 2018,

1. *Invites* Member States to continue efforts to apply developments in science and technology for disarmament-related purposes, including the verification of disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation instruments, and to make disarmament-related technologies available to interested States;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to remain vigilant in understanding new and emerging developments in science and technology that could imperil international security, and underlines the importance of Member States engaging with experts from industry, the research community and civil society in addressing this challenge;

3. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts,<sup>38</sup> in which he highlights recent developments in science and technology, including in artificial intelligence and autonomous systems, biology and chemistry, advanced missile and missile-defence technologies, space-based technologies, electromagnetic technologies and materials technologies, and takes note of the section containing submissions from Member States giving their views on the matter;

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<sup>37</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1342, No. 22495.

<sup>38</sup> [A/73/177](#).



## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session an updated report on recent developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts, with an annex containing submissions from Member States giving their views on the matter;

5. *Encourages* the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters to continue its discussions on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research to convene, from voluntary contributions, a one-day focused informal seminar in Geneva in 2019 on the role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament, in order to facilitate dialogue among relevant stakeholders on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament”.

### RESOLUTION 73/33

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101)<sup>39</sup>

#### 73/33. Regional disarmament

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 45/58 P of 4 December 1990, 46/36 I of 6 December 1991, 47/52 J of 9 December 1992, 48/75 I of 16 December 1993, 49/75 N of 15 December 1994, 50/70 K of 12 December 1995, 51/45 K of 10 December 1996, 52/38 P of 9 December 1997, 53/77 O of 4 December 1998, 54/54 N of 1 December 1999, 55/33 O of 20 November 2000, 56/24 H of 29 November 2001, 57/76 of 22 November 2002, 58/38 of 8 December 2003, 59/89 of 3 December 2004, 60/63 of 8 December 2005, 61/80 of 6 December 2006, 62/38 of 5 December 2007, 63/43 of 2 December 2008, 64/41 of 2 December 2009, 65/45 of 8 December 2010, 66/36 of 2 December 2011, 67/57 of 3 December 2012, 68/54 of 5 December 2013, 69/45 of 2 December 2014, 70/43 of 7 December 2015, 71/40 of 5 December 2016 and 72/34 of 4 December 2017 on regional disarmament,

*Believing* that the efforts of the international community to move towards the ideal of general and complete disarmament are guided by the inherent human desire for genuine peace and security, the elimination of the danger of war and the release of economic, intellectual and other resources for peaceful pursuits,

*Affirming* the abiding commitment of all States to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations in the conduct of their international relations,

*Noting* that essential guidelines for progress towards general and complete disarmament were adopted at the tenth special session of the General Assembly,<sup>40</sup>

*Taking note* of the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session,<sup>41</sup>

*Welcoming* the prospects of genuine progress in the field of disarmament engendered in recent years as a result of negotiations between the two super-Powers,

*Taking note* of the recent proposals for disarmament at the regional and subregional levels,

*Recognizing* the importance of confidence-building measures for regional and international peace and security,

<sup>39</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Ecuador, Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka and Turkey.

<sup>40</sup> Resolution S-10/2.

<sup>41</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/48/42)*, annex II.



## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

*Convinced* that endeavours by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of all States and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts,

1. *Stresses* that sustained efforts are needed, within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament and under the umbrella of the United Nations, to make progress on the entire range of disarmament issues;
2. *Affirms* that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should therefore be pursued simultaneously to promote regional and international peace and security;
3. *Calls upon* States to conclude agreements, wherever possible, for nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels;
4. *Welcomes* the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and subregional levels;
5. *Supports and encourages* efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation measures at the regional and subregional levels;
6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Regional disarmament”.

### RESOLUTION 73/34

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>42</sup> by a recorded vote of 179 to 1, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* India

*Abstaining:* Bhutan, Russian Federation, Rwanda

#### 73/34. Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 48/75 J of 16 December 1993, 49/75 O of 15 December 1994, 50/70 L of 12 December 1995, 51/45 Q of 10 December 1996, 52/38 Q of 9 December 1997, 53/77 P of 4 December 1998, 54/54 M of 1 December 1999, 55/33 P of 20 November 2000, 56/24 I of 29 November 2001, 57/77 of 22 November 2002,

<sup>42</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Belarus, Ecuador, Italy, Pakistan, Peru, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine and Zambia.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

58/39 of 8 December 2003, 59/88 of 3 December 2004, 60/75 of 8 December 2005, 61/82 of 6 December 2006, 62/44 of 5 December 2007, 63/44 of 2 December 2008, 64/42 of 2 December 2009, 65/46 of 8 December 2010, 66/37 of 2 December 2011, 67/62 of 3 December 2012, 68/56 of 5 December 2013, 69/47 of 2 December 2014, 70/44 of 7 December 2015, 71/41 of 5 December 2016 and 72/35 of 4 December 2017,

*Recognizing* the crucial role of conventional arms control in promoting regional and international peace and security,

*Recognizing also* the importance of equitable representation of women in arms control discussions and negotiations,

*Convinced* that conventional arms control needs to be pursued primarily in the regional and subregional contexts since most threats to peace and security in the post-cold-war era arise mainly among States located in the same region or subregion,

*Aware* that the preservation of a balance in the defence capabilities of States at the lowest level of armaments would contribute to peace and stability and should be a prime objective of conventional arms control,

*Desirous* of promoting agreements to strengthen regional peace and security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces,

*Noting with particular interest* the initiatives taken in this regard in different regions of the world, in particular the commencement of consultations among a number of Latin American countries and the proposals for conventional arms control made in the context of South Asia, and recognizing, in the context of this subject, the relevance and value of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe,<sup>43</sup> which is a cornerstone of European security,

*Believing* that militarily significant States and States with larger military capabilities have a special responsibility in promoting such agreements for regional security,

*Believing also* that an important objective of conventional arms control in regions of tension should be to prevent the possibility of military attack launched by surprise and to avoid aggression,

1. *Decides* to give urgent consideration to the issues involved in conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;
2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to consider the formulation of principles that can serve as a framework for regional agreements on conventional arms control, and looks forward to a report of the Conference on this subject;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the meantime, to seek the views of Member States on the subject and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;
4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels”.

### RESOLUTION 73/35

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101)<sup>44</sup>

#### 73/35. Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolutions 58/43 of 8 December 2003, 59/87 of 3 December 2004, 60/64 of 8 December 2005, 61/81 of 6 December 2006, 62/45 of 5 December 2007, 63/45 of 2 December 2008, 64/43 of 2 December 2009,

<sup>43</sup> See CD/1064.

<sup>44</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Pakistan, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine and Zambia.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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65/47 of 8 December 2010, 66/38 of 2 December 2011, 67/61 of 3 December 2012, 68/55 of 5 December 2013, 69/46 of 2 December 2014, 70/42 of 7 December 2015, 71/39 of 5 December 2016 and 72/33 of 4 December 2017 on confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context,

*Recalling also* its resolution 57/337 of 3 July 2003 on the prevention of armed conflict, in which the General Assembly calls upon Member States to settle their disputes by peaceful means, as set out in Chapter VI of the Charter, inter alia, by any procedures adopted by the parties,

*Recalling further* the resolutions and guidelines adopted by consensus by the General Assembly and the Disarmament Commission relating to confidence-building measures and their implementation at the global, regional and subregional levels,

*Considering* the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the agreement of all States concerned, and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability,

*Convinced* that resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

*Recognizing* the need for meaningful dialogue among States concerned to avert conflict,

*Welcoming* the peace processes already initiated by States concerned to resolve their disputes through peaceful means bilaterally or through mediation, inter alia, by third parties, regional organizations or the United Nations,

*Recognizing* that States in some regions have already taken steps towards confidence-building measures at the bilateral, subregional and regional levels in the political and military fields, including arms control and disarmament, and noting that such confidence-building measures have improved peace and security in those regions and contributed to progress in the socioeconomic conditions of their people,

*Concerned* that the continuation of disputes among States, particularly in the absence of an effective mechanism to resolve them through peaceful means, may contribute to the arms race and endanger the maintenance of international peace and security and the efforts of the international community to promote arms control and disarmament,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to refrain from the use or threat of use of force in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Reaffirms its commitment* to the peaceful settlement of disputes under Chapter VI of the Charter, in particular Article 33, which provides for a solution by negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements or other peaceful means chosen by the parties;

3. *Reaffirms* the ways and means regarding confidence- and security-building measures set out in the report of the Disarmament Commission on its 1993 session;<sup>45</sup>

4. *Calls upon* Member States to pursue these ways and means through sustained consultations and dialogue, while at the same time avoiding actions that may hinder or impair such a dialogue;

5. *Urges* States to comply strictly with all bilateral, regional and international agreements, including arms control and disarmament agreements, to which they are party;

6. *Emphasizes* that the objective of confidence-building measures should be to help to strengthen international peace and security and to be consistent with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments;

7. *Encourages* the promotion of bilateral and regional confidence-building measures, with the consent and participation of the parties concerned, to avoid conflict and prevent the unintended and accidental outbreak of hostilities;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session containing the views of Member States on confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context;

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<sup>45</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/48/42), annex II, sect. III.A.

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context”.

### RESOLUTION 73/36

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>46</sup> by a recorded vote of 151 to none, with 29 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Zambia

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Uganda, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe

#### 73/36. The Arms Trade Treaty

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 61/89 of 6 December 2006, 63/240 of 24 December 2008, 64/48 of 2 December 2009, 67/234 A of 24 December 2012, 67/234 B of 2 April 2013, 68/31 of 5 December 2013, 69/49 of 2 December 2014, 70/58 of 7 December 2015, 71/50 of 5 December 2016 and 72/44 of 4 December 2017 and its decision 66/518 of 2 December 2011,

*Recognizing* that disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation are essential for the maintenance of international peace and security,

*Recognizing also* the security, social, economic and humanitarian consequences of the illicit and unregulated trade in conventional arms,

*Recognizing further* the legitimate political, security, economic and commercial interests of States in the international trade in conventional arms,

*Underlining* the need to prevent and eradicate the illicit trade in conventional arms and to prevent their diversion to the illicit market, or for unauthorized end use and end users, including the commission of terrorist acts,

<sup>46</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Zambia.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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*Recalling* the contribution made by the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,<sup>47</sup> as well as the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>48</sup> and the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons,<sup>49</sup>

*Highlighting* the links and synergies between the Arms Trade Treaty<sup>50</sup> and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>51</sup> including Sustainable Development Goal 16 and target 16.4, which aims at significantly reducing illicit arms flows by 2030,

*Taking note* of the Secretary-General's disarmament agenda, *Securing Our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament*, in particular the section of the agenda entitled "Disarmament that saves lives",

*Recognizing* the negative impact of the illicit and unregulated trade in conventional arms and related ammunition on the lives of women, men, girls and boys, and that the Arms Trade Treaty was the first international agreement to identify and call upon States to address the link between conventional arms transfers and the risk of serious acts of gender-based violence and serious acts of violence against women and children,

*Recognizing also* the important role that civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, and industry play, by raising awareness, in efforts to prevent and eradicate the unregulated and illicit trade in conventional arms and prevent their diversion and in supporting the implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty,

*Recalling* the adoption by the General Assembly and the entry into force of the Treaty on 2 April 2013 and 24 December 2014, respectively, and noting that the Treaty remains open for accession by any State that has not signed it,

*Welcoming* the latest ratifications of the Treaty, bearing in mind that universalization of the Treaty is essential to achieving its object and purpose,

*Noting* the efforts by the States parties to the Treaty to continue exploring ways and means to enhance national implementation of the Treaty through the working group on effective treaty implementation and the voluntary trust fund for the implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty,

1. *Welcomes* the decisions taken at the Fourth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty, held in Tokyo from 20 to 24 August 2018, and notes that the Fifth Conference of States Parties will be held in Geneva from 26 to 30 August 2019;

2. *Also welcomes* the progress made by the standing working groups on effective treaty implementation, on transparency and reporting, and on universalization in advancing the object and purpose of the Arms Trade Treaty;<sup>50</sup>

3. *Recognizes* that the consolidation of the institutional structure of the Treaty provides a framework for supporting further work under the Treaty, in particular its effective implementation, and in this regard expresses concern about the unpaid assessed contributions of States and the potential adverse implications this has for the Treaty processes, and calls upon States that have not yet done so to address their financial obligations under the Treaty in a prompt and timely manner;

4. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to ratify, accept, approve or accede to the Treaty, according to their respective constitutional processes, in order to achieve its universalization;

5. *Calls upon* those States parties in a position to do so to provide assistance, including legal or legislative assistance, institutional capacity-building and technical, material or financial assistance, to requesting States in order to promote the implementation and universalization of the Treaty;

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<sup>47</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects*, New York, 9–20 July 2001 (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

<sup>48</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2326, No. 39574.

<sup>49</sup> See decision 60/519 and A/60/88 and A/60/88/Corr.2, annex.

<sup>50</sup> See resolution 67/234 B.

<sup>51</sup> Resolution 70/1.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

6. *Stresses* the vital importance of the full and effective implementation of and compliance with all provisions of the Treaty by States parties, and urges the States parties to meet their obligations under the Treaty, thereby contributing to international and regional peace, security and stability, to the reduction of human suffering and to the promotion of cooperation, transparency and responsible action;

7. *Recognizes* the complementarity among all relevant international instruments on conventional arms and the Treaty, and to this end urges all States to implement effective national measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit and unregulated trade in conventional arms and ammunition in fulfilment of their respective international obligations and commitments;

8. *Encourages* further steps to enable States to increasingly prevent and tackle diversion of conventional arms and ammunition to unauthorized end uses and end users;

9. *Recognizes* the added value of the adoption in June 2018 of the report of the third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,<sup>52</sup> including the outcome document annexed thereto, and acknowledges synergies between the Programme of Action and the Arms Trade Treaty;

10. *Encourages* all States parties to make available, in a timely manner, and to update, as appropriate, their initial report, as well as their annual report for the preceding calendar year, as required under article 13 of the Treaty, thereby enhancing confidence, transparency, trust and accountability, and notes the endorsement by the Second Conference of States Parties of templates that may facilitate the reporting task;

11. *Encourages* States parties and signatory States to ensure the full and equal participation of women and men in pursuing the object and purpose of the Treaty and its implementation;

12. *Welcomes* the successful operationalization of the voluntary trust fund for the implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty, encourages eligible States to make best use of the voluntary trust fund, and encourages all States parties in a position to do so to contribute to the voluntary trust fund;

13. *Encourages* States parties and signatory States in a position to do so to provide financial assistance, through a voluntary sponsorship fund, that could contribute to meeting the costs of participation in meetings under the Treaty for those States that would otherwise be unable to attend;

14. *Encourages* States parties to strengthen their cooperation with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, industry and relevant international organizations and to work with other States parties at the national and regional levels, and invites those stakeholders, in particular those that are underrepresented in Arms Trade Treaty processes, to engage further with States parties with the aim of ensuring the effective implementation and universalization of the Treaty;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “The Arms Trade Treaty”, and to review the implementation of the present resolution at that session.

### RESOLUTION 73/37

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101)<sup>53</sup>

#### 73/37. Relationship between disarmament and development

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* that the Charter of the United Nations envisages the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with the least diversion for armaments of the world’s human and economic resources,

<sup>52</sup> A/CONF.192/2018/RC/3.

<sup>53</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).



## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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*Recalling also* the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly concerning the relationship between disarmament and development,<sup>54</sup> as well as the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,<sup>55</sup>

*Recalling further* its resolutions [49/75](#) J of 15 December 1994, [50/70](#) G of 12 December 1995, [51/45](#) D of 10 December 1996, [52/38](#) D of 9 December 1997, [53/77](#) K of 4 December 1998, [54/54](#) T of 1 December 1999, [55/33](#) L of 20 November 2000, [56/24](#) E of 29 November 2001, [57/65](#) of 22 November 2002, [59/78](#) of 3 December 2004, [60/61](#) of 8 December 2005, [61/64](#) of 6 December 2006, [62/48](#) of 5 December 2007, [63/52](#) of 2 December 2008, [64/32](#) of 2 December 2009, [65/52](#) of 8 December 2010, [66/30](#) of 2 December 2011, [67/40](#) of 3 December 2012, [68/37](#) of 5 December 2013, [69/56](#) of 2 December 2014, [70/32](#) of 7 December 2015, [71/62](#) of 5 December 2016 and [72/46](#) of 4 December 2017 and its decision 58/520 of 8 December 2003,

*Bearing in mind* the Final Document of the Eighteenth Midterm Ministerial Meeting of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Baku from 3 to 6 April 2018,

*Mindful* of the changes in international relations that have taken place since the adoption in 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, including the development agenda that has emerged over the past decade,

*Bearing in mind* the new challenges for the international community in the fields of development, poverty eradication and the elimination of the diseases that afflict humanity,

*Stressing* the importance of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development and the important role of security in this connection, and concerned at increasing global military expenditure, which could otherwise be spent on development needs,

*Recalling* the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development<sup>56</sup> and its reappraisal of this significant issue in the current international context,

*Bearing in mind* the importance of following up on the implementation of the action programme adopted at the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,<sup>55</sup>

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution [72/46](#),<sup>57</sup>

1. *Stresses* the central role of the United Nations in the relationship between disarmament and development, and requests the Secretary-General to strengthen further the role of the Organization in this field, in particular the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development, in order to ensure continued and effective coordination and close cooperation between the relevant United Nations departments, agencies and subagencies;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take action, through appropriate organs and within available resources, for the implementation of the action programme adopted on 11 September 1987 at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development;<sup>55</sup>

3. *Urges* the international community to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries;

4. *Encourages* the international community to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals<sup>58</sup> and to make reference to the contribution that disarmament could provide in meeting them when it reviews its progress towards this purpose, as well as to make greater efforts to integrate disarmament, humanitarian and development activities;

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<sup>54</sup> See resolution [S-10/2](#).

<sup>55</sup> See *Report of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, New York, 24 August–11 September 1987* ([A/CONF.130/39](#)).

<sup>56</sup> See [A/59/119](#).

<sup>57</sup> [A/73/117](#).

<sup>58</sup> See resolution [70/1](#).



## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

5. *Encourages* the relevant regional and subregional organizations and institutions, non-governmental organizations and research institutes to incorporate issues related to the relationship between disarmament and development into their agendas and, in this regard, to take into account the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development;<sup>56</sup>

6. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to provide the Secretary-General with information regarding measures and efforts to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including the information provided by Member States pursuant to paragraph 6 above;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Relationship between disarmament and development”.

### RESOLUTION 73/38

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>59</sup> by a recorded vote of 151 to 4, with 25 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* France, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine

#### 73/38. Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international humanitarian law,

*Recalling* its resolutions 62/30 of 5 December 2007, 63/54 of 2 December 2008, 65/55 of 8 December 2010, 67/36 of 3 December 2012, 69/57 of 2 December 2014 and 71/70 of 5 December 2016,

*Determined* to promote multilateralism as an essential means to carry forward negotiations on arms regulation and disarmament,

<sup>59</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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*Taking note* of the opinions expressed by Member States and relevant international organizations on the effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium, as reflected in the reports submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolutions 62/30, 63/54, 65/55, 67/36, 69/57 and 71/70,<sup>60</sup>

*Recognizing* the importance of implementing, as appropriate, the recommendations of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Organization to mitigate potential hazards to human beings and the environment from the contamination of territories with depleted uranium residues,

*Considering* that studies conducted so far by relevant international organizations have not provided a detailed enough account of the magnitude of the potential long-term effects on human beings and the environment of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium,

*Recalling* that the United Nations Environment Programme, in its report to the Secretary-General on the subject,<sup>61</sup> affirms that major scientific uncertainties persist regarding the long-term environmental impacts of depleted uranium, particularly with respect to long-term groundwater contamination, and calls for a precautionary approach to the use of depleted uranium,

*Convinced* that, as humankind becomes more aware of the need to take immediate measures to protect the environment, any event that could jeopardize such efforts requires urgent attention to implement the required measures,

*Noting* that further research should be done to assess the health risks and environmental impact of the use of arms and ammunitions containing depleted uranium in conflict situations,

*Noting also* the technical and financial barriers faced by affected States seeking to implement post-conflict remedial measures that meet international standards for radioactive waste management for locations, infrastructure and materiel contaminated by arms and ammunitions containing depleted uranium,

*Taking into consideration* the potential harmful effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium on human health and the environment, and the ongoing concerns of affected States and communities, health experts and civil society about such effects,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Member States and international organizations that submitted their views to the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 71/70 and previous resolutions on the subject;

2. *Invites* Member States and relevant international organizations, particularly those that have not yet done so, to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on the effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to request relevant international organizations to update and complete, as appropriate, their studies and research on the effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium on human health and the environment;

4. *Encourages* Member States, particularly the affected States, as necessary, to facilitate the studies and research referred to in paragraph 3 above;

5. *Also encourages* Member States to follow closely the development of the studies and research referred to in paragraph 3 above;

6. *Invites* Member States that have used armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium in armed conflicts to provide the relevant authorities of affected States, upon request, with information, as detailed as possible, about the location of the areas of use and the amounts used, with the objective of facilitating the assessment and clearance of such areas;

7. *Encourages* Member States in a position to do so to provide assistance to States affected by the use of arms and ammunitions containing depleted uranium, in particular in identifying and managing contaminated sites and material;

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<sup>60</sup> A/63/170, A/63/170/Add.1, A/65/129, A/65/129/Add.1, A/67/177, A/67/177/Add.1, A/69/151, A/71/139 and A/73/99.

<sup>61</sup> A/65/129/Add.1, sect. III.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit an updated report on the subject to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, reflecting the information submitted by Member States and relevant international organizations, including the information submitted pursuant to paragraphs 2 and 3 above;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium”.

### RESOLUTION 73/39

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101)<sup>62</sup>

#### **73/39. Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 50/70 M of 12 December 1995, 51/45 E of 10 December 1996, 52/38 E of 9 December 1997, 53/77 J of 4 December 1998, 54/54 S of 1 December 1999, 55/33 K of 20 November 2000, 56/24 F of 29 November 2001, 57/64 of 22 November 2002, 58/45 of 8 December 2003, 59/68 of 3 December 2004, 60/60 of 8 December 2005, 61/63 of 6 December 2006, 62/28 of 5 December 2007, 63/51 of 2 December 2008, 64/33 of 2 December 2009, 65/53 of 8 December 2010, 66/31 of 2 December 2011, 67/37 of 3 December 2012, 68/36 of 5 December 2013, 69/55 of 2 December 2014, 70/30 of 7 December 2015, 71/60 of 5 December 2016 and 72/47 of 4 December 2017,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the observance of environmental norms in the preparation and implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements,

*Recognizing* that it is necessary to take duly into account the agreements adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as well as prior relevant agreements, in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms limitation,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 72/47,<sup>63</sup>

*Noting* that the Eighteenth Midterm Ministerial Meeting of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Baku from 3 to 6 April 2018, welcomed the adoption by the General Assembly, without a vote, of resolution 72/47 on the observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control,

*Mindful* of the detrimental environmental effects of the use of nuclear weapons,

1. *Reaffirms* that international disarmament forums should take fully into account the relevant environmental norms in negotiating treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms limitation and that all States, through their actions, should contribute fully to ensuring compliance with the aforementioned norms in the implementation of treaties and conventions to which they are parties;

2. *Calls upon* States to adopt unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures so as to contribute to ensuring the application of scientific and technological progress within the framework of international security, disarmament and other related spheres, without detriment to the environment or to its effective contribution to attaining sustainable development;

3. *Welcomes* the information provided by Member States on the implementation of the measures that they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution;<sup>63</sup>

<sup>62</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

<sup>63</sup> A/73/92.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

4. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General information on the measures that they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report containing that information to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control”.

### RESOLUTION 73/40

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>64</sup> by a recorded vote of 143 to 27, with 14 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Australia, Belgium, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Japan, Norway, Portugal, Serbia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine

#### **73/40. Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 67/39 of 3 December 2012, 68/32 of 5 December 2013, 69/58 of 2 December 2014, 70/34 of 7 December 2015, 71/71 of 5 December 2016 and 72/251 of 24 December 2017,

*Welcoming* the convening of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, on 26 September 2013, and recognizing its contribution to furthering the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Emphasizing* the importance of seeking a safer world for all and achieving peace and security in a world without nuclear weapons,

*Reaffirming* that effective measures of nuclear disarmament have the highest priority, as affirmed at the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament,

*Convinced* that nuclear disarmament and the total elimination of nuclear weapons are the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Acknowledging* the significant contribution made by a number of countries towards realizing the objective of nuclear disarmament by the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, as well as by voluntary renunciation of nuclear weapon programmes or withdrawal of all nuclear weapons from their territories, and strongly supporting the speedy establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East,

<sup>64</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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*Recalling* the resolve of the Heads of State and Government, as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>65</sup> to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

*Reaffirming* the central role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament, and reaffirming also the continued importance and relevance of multilateral disarmament machinery as mandated by the General Assembly at its first special session devoted to disarmament,

*Acknowledging* the important role of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, academia, parliamentarians and the mass media, in advancing the objective of nuclear disarmament,

*Sharing the deep concern* at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and in this context reaffirming the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution [72/251](#),<sup>66</sup> and welcoming the fact that a large number of Member States contributed their views to this report,

*Noting* the adoption, with a vote, of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons<sup>67</sup> on 7 July 2017 at the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination,

*Mindful* of the solemn obligations of States parties, undertaken in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>68</sup> particularly to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to the cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament,

*Expressing its deep concern* that the negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament for the conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons have not yet commenced,

*Determined* to work collectively towards the realization of nuclear disarmament,

1. *Underlines* the strong support, expressed at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, held on 26 September 2013, for taking urgent and effective measures to achieve the total elimination of nuclear weapons;
2. *Calls for* urgent compliance with the legal obligations and the fulfilment of the commitments undertaken on nuclear disarmament;
3. *Endorses* the wide support expressed at the high-level meeting for a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons;
4. *Calls for* the urgent commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on effective nuclear disarmament measures to achieve the total elimination of nuclear weapons, including, in particular, on a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons;
5. *Decides* to convene, in New York, on a date to be decided later, a United Nations high-level international conference on nuclear disarmament to review the progress made in this regard;
6. *Takes note* of the views provided by Member States with regard to achieving the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, in particular on the elements of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, as reflected in the report submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution [72/251](#),<sup>66</sup> and requests the Secretary-General to forward this report to the Conference on Disarmament and the Disarmament Commission for their early consideration;
7. *Welcomes* the commemoration and promotion of 26 September as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons devoted to furthering this objective;

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<sup>65</sup> Resolution [55/2](#).

<sup>66</sup> [A/73/122](#).

<sup>67</sup> [A/CONF.229/2017/8](#).

<sup>68</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

8. *Expresses its appreciation* to Member States, the United Nations system and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, academia, parliamentarians, the mass media and individuals that developed activities in promotion of the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the President of the General Assembly to organize, on 26 September every year, a one-day high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons;

10. *Decides* that the aforementioned high-level plenary meeting shall be held with the participation of Member and observer States, represented at the highest possible level, as well as with the participation of the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake all arrangements necessary to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, including through the United Nations Offices at Geneva and Vienna, as well as the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament;

12. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, academia, parliamentarians, the mass media and individuals, to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons through all means of educational and public awareness-raising activities about the threat posed to humanity by nuclear weapons and the necessity for their total elimination in order to mobilize international efforts towards achieving the common goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States with regard to achieving the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, in particular on effective nuclear disarmament measures, including elements of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, and also to transmit the report to the Conference on Disarmament;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament”.

### RESOLUTION 73/41

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>69</sup> by a recorded vote of 128 to 4, with 52 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine

<sup>69</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).



### 73/41. Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation

*The General Assembly,*

*Determined* to foster strict respect for the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolution 56/24 T of 29 November 2001 on multilateral cooperation in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and global efforts against terrorism and other relevant resolutions, as well as its resolutions 57/63 of 22 November 2002, 58/44 of 8 December 2003, 59/69 of 3 December 2004, 60/59 of 8 December 2005, 61/62 of 6 December 2006, 62/27 of 5 December 2007, 63/50 of 2 December 2008, 64/34 of 2 December 2009, 65/54 of 8 December 2010, 66/32 of 2 December 2011, 67/38 of 3 December 2012, 68/38 of 5 December 2013, 69/54 of 2 December 2014, 70/31 of 7 December 2015, 71/61 of 5 December 2016 and 72/48 of 4 December 2017 on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation,

*Recalling also* the purpose of the United Nations to maintain international peace and security and, to that end, to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace, as enshrined in the Charter,

*Recalling further* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>70</sup> in which it is stated, inter alia, that the responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally and that, as the most universal and most representative organization in the world, the United Nations must play the central role,

*Convinced* that, in the globalization era and with the information revolution, arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament problems are more than ever the concern of all countries in the world, which are affected in one way or another by these problems and therefore should have the possibility to participate in the negotiations that arise to tackle them,

*Bearing in mind* the existence of a broad structure of disarmament and arms regulation agreements resulting from non-discriminatory and transparent multilateral negotiations with the participation of a large number of countries, regardless of their size and power,

*Aware* of the need to advance further in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament on the basis of universal, multilateral, non-discriminatory and transparent negotiations with the goal of reaching general and complete disarmament under strict international control,

*Recognizing* the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on disarmament,

*Recognizing also* that the proliferation and development of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, are among the most immediate threats to international peace and security which need to be dealt with, with the highest priority,

*Considering* that the multilateral disarmament agreements provide the mechanism for States parties to consult one another and to cooperate in solving any problems which may arise in relation to the objective of, or in the application of, the provisions of the agreements and that such consultations and cooperation may also be undertaken through appropriate international procedures within the framework of the United Nations and in accordance with the Charter,

*Stressing* that international cooperation, the peaceful settlement of disputes, dialogue and confidence-building measures would make an essential contribution to the creation of multilateral and bilateral friendly relations among peoples and nations,

*Being concerned* at the continuous erosion of multilateralism in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament, and recognizing that a resort to unilateral actions by Member States in resolving their security concerns would jeopardize international peace and security and undermine confidence in the international security system as well as the foundations of the United Nations itself,

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<sup>70</sup> Resolution 55/2.



## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

*Noting* that the Eighteenth Midterm Ministerial Meeting of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Baku from 3 to 6 April 2018, welcomed the adoption of resolution 72/48 on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and underlined the fact that multilateralism and multilaterally agreed solutions, in accordance with the Charter, provide the only sustainable method of addressing disarmament and international security issues,

*Reaffirming* the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, and determined to promote multilateralism as an essential way to develop arms regulation and disarmament negotiations,

1. *Reaffirms* multilateralism as the core principle in negotiations in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation with a view to maintaining and strengthening universal norms and enlarging their scope;

2. *Also reaffirms* multilateralism as the core principle in resolving disarmament and non-proliferation concerns;

3. *Urges* the participation of all interested States in multilateral negotiations on arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament in a non-discriminatory and transparent manner;

4. *Underlines* the importance of preserving the existing agreements on arms regulation and disarmament, which constitute an expression of the results of international cooperation and multilateral negotiations in response to the challenges facing humankind;

5. *Calls once again upon* all Member States to renew and fulfil their individual and collective commitments to multilateral cooperation as an important means of pursuing and achieving their common objectives in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;

6. *Requests* the States parties to the relevant instruments on weapons of mass destruction to consult and cooperate among themselves in resolving their concerns with regard to cases of non-compliance as well as on implementation, in accordance with the procedures defined in those instruments, and to refrain from resorting or threatening to resort to unilateral actions or directing unverified non-compliance accusations against one another to resolve their concerns;

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General containing the replies of Member States on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, submitted pursuant to resolution 72/48,<sup>71</sup>

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the issue of the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation”.

### RESOLUTION 73/42

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>72</sup> by a recorded vote of 178 to none, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras,

<sup>71</sup> A/73/95.

<sup>72</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* France, Israel, Papua New Guinea, United States of America

### 73/42. Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [49/75](#) I of 15 December 1994, [50/70](#) F of 12 December 1995, [51/45](#) C of 10 December 1996, [52/38](#) F of 9 December 1997, [53/77](#) AA of 4 December 1998, [54/54](#) U of 1 December 1999, [55/33](#) M of 20 November 2000, [56/24](#) D of 29 November 2001, [57/61](#) of 22 November 2002, [59/71](#) of 3 December 2004, [61/60](#) of 6 December 2006, [62/29](#) of 5 December 2007, [65/66](#) of 8 December 2010 and [72/49](#) of 4 December 2017, as well as its decisions 58/521 of 8 December 2003, 60/518 of 8 December 2005, 60/559 of 6 June 2006, 63/519 of 2 December 2008, 64/515 of 2 December 2009 and 70/551 of 23 December 2015,

*Recalling also* that, there being a consensus to do so in each case, three special sessions of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament were held in 1978, 1982 and 1988, respectively,

*Bearing in mind* the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, adopted by consensus at the first special session devoted to disarmament,<sup>73</sup>

*Bearing in mind also* the ultimate objective of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

*Reiterating its conviction* that a special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament can set the future course of action in the fields of disarmament, arms control, non-proliferation and related international security matters,

*Emphasizing* the importance of multilateralism in the process of disarmament, arms control, non-proliferation and related international security matters,

*Recalling* the conclusion of the work of the Open-ended Working Group on the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament to consider the objectives and agenda of the fourth special session, and to adopt its report and substantive recommendations by consensus,<sup>74</sup>

*Recalling also* the report of the Open-ended Working Group and the recommendations contained therein,

1. *Recalls* the adoption by consensus of the recommendations on the objectives and agenda of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament by the Open-ended Working Group on the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, which was established by the Assembly by its resolution [65/66](#) and its decision 70/551 and which met in New York in 2016 and 2017;

2. *Also recalls* the report of the Open-ended Working Group and the substantive recommendations contained therein;<sup>74</sup>

3. *Reiterates its appreciation* to the participants of the Open-ended Working Group for their constructive contribution to its work;

<sup>73</sup> Resolution [S-10/2](#).

<sup>74</sup> [A/AC.268/2017/2](#).

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

4. *Encourages* Member States to continue consultations on the next steps for convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament”.

### RESOLUTION 73/43

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>75</sup> by a recorded vote of 181 to none, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Israel, United States of America

#### 73/43. Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the subject, in particular resolution 71/59 of 5 December 2016,

*Determined* to act with a view to achieving effective progress towards general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

*Recalling* the long-standing determination of the international community to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical and biological weapons, as well as the continuing support for measures to uphold the authority of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925,<sup>76</sup> as expressed by consensus in many previous resolutions,

*Emphasizing* the necessity of easing international tension and strengthening trust and confidence between States,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General;<sup>77</sup>

2. *Renews its previous call* to all States to observe strictly the principles and objectives of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare,<sup>76</sup> and reaffirms the vital necessity of upholding its provisions;

<sup>75</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

<sup>76</sup> League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. XCIV, No. 2138.

<sup>77</sup> A/73/91.

3. *Calls upon* those States that continue to maintain reservations to the 1925 Geneva Protocol to withdraw them;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

### RESOLUTION 73/44

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101)<sup>78</sup>

#### 73/44. Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/77 D of 4 December 1998, 55/33 S of 20 November 2000, 57/67 of 22 November 2002, 59/73 of 3 December 2004, 61/87 of 6 December 2006, 63/56 of 2 December 2008, 65/70 of 8 December 2010, 67/52 of 3 December 2012, 69/63 of 2 December 2014 and 71/43 of 5 December 2016,

*Recalling also* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,<sup>79</sup>

*Bearing in mind* its resolution 49/31 of 9 December 1994 on the protection and security of small States,

*Proceeding* from the fact that nuclear-weapon-free status is one of the means of ensuring the national security of States,

*Convinced* that the internationally recognized status of Mongolia contributes to enhancing stability and confidence-building in the region and promotes Mongolia's security by strengthening its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the inviolability of its borders and the preservation of its ecological balance,

*Welcoming* the declaration by Mongolia regarding its nuclear-weapon-free status of 17 September 2012,<sup>80</sup>

*Welcoming also* the joint declaration of the five nuclear-weapon States on Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status of 17 September 2012,<sup>81</sup>

*Noting* that the declarations referred to above have been transmitted to the Security Council,

*Welcoming* the adoption by the Mongolian parliament of legislation defining and regulating Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status<sup>82</sup> as a concrete step towards promoting the aims of nuclear non-proliferation,

*Bearing in mind* the joint statement of the five nuclear-weapon States on security assurances to Mongolia in connection with its nuclear-weapon-free status<sup>83</sup> as a contribution to the implementation of resolution 53/77 D, as well as their commitment to Mongolia to cooperate in the implementation of the resolution, in accordance with the principles of the Charter,

*Mindful* of the support expressed for Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status by the Heads of State and Government of Non-Aligned Countries at the Thirteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Kuala Lumpur on 24 and 25 February 2003,<sup>84</sup> the Fourteenth Conference, held in

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<sup>78</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, China, France, Haiti, Indonesia, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Philippines, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

<sup>79</sup> Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

<sup>80</sup> A/67/517-S/2012/760, annex.

<sup>81</sup> A/67/393-S/2012/721, annex.

<sup>82</sup> See A/55/56-S/2000/160.

<sup>83</sup> A/55/530-S/2000/1052, annex.

<sup>84</sup> See A/57/759-S/2003/332, annex I.

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Havana on 15 and 16 September 2006,<sup>85</sup> the Fifteenth Summit Conference, held in Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009,<sup>86</sup> the Sixteenth Conference, held in Tehran from 26 to 31 August 2012,<sup>87</sup> and the Seventeenth Conference, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, and by Ministers at the Fifteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran on 29 and 30 July 2008,<sup>88</sup> the Sixteenth Ministerial Conference and Commemorative Meeting, held in Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia, from 23 to 27 May 2011,<sup>89</sup> the Seventeenth Ministerial Conference, held in Algiers from 26 to 29 May 2014, and the Eighteenth Ministerial Conference, held in Baku from 5 to 6 April 2018,

*Noting* that the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco,<sup>90</sup> Rarotonga,<sup>91</sup> Bangkok<sup>92</sup> and Pelindaba<sup>93</sup> expressed their recognition and full support for Mongolia's international nuclear-weapon-free status at the first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, held in Tlatelolco, Mexico, from 26 to 28 April 2005,<sup>94</sup>

*Noting also* that the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba and the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia expressed support for Mongolia's policy at the second Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, held in New York on 30 April 2010, and at the third Conference of States Parties and Signatories of Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, held in New York on 24 April 2015,

*Noting further* other measures taken to implement resolution 71/43 at the national and international levels,

*Welcoming* Mongolia's active and positive role in developing peaceful, friendly and mutually beneficial relations with the States of the region and other States,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>95</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>95</sup>
2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the efforts to implement resolution 71/43;<sup>96</sup>
3. *Welcomes* the declarations of 17 September 2012 by Mongolia<sup>80</sup> and the five nuclear-weapon States<sup>81</sup> on Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status as a concrete contribution to nuclear disarmament and the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and the enhancement of confidence and predictability in the region;
4. *Welcomes and supports* the measures taken by Mongolia to consolidate and strengthen this status;
5. *Endorses and supports* Mongolia's good-neighbourly and balanced relationship with its neighbours as an important element of strengthening regional peace, security and stability;
6. *Welcomes* the efforts made by Member States to cooperate with Mongolia in implementing resolution 71/43, as well as the progress made in consolidating Mongolia's international security;
7. *Invites* Member States to continue to cooperate with Mongolia in taking the measures necessary to consolidate and strengthen Mongolia's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the inviolability of its borders, its independent foreign policy, its economic security and its ecological balance, as well as its nuclear-weapon-free status;

<sup>85</sup> See A/61/472-S/2006/780, annex I.

<sup>86</sup> See A/63/965-S/2009/514, annex.

<sup>87</sup> See A/67/506-S/2012/752, annex I.

<sup>88</sup> See A/62/929, annex I.

<sup>89</sup> A/65/896-S/2011/407, annex V.

<sup>90</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

<sup>91</sup> *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

<sup>92</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

<sup>93</sup> A/50/426, annex.

<sup>94</sup> See A/60/121, annex III.

<sup>95</sup> A/73/202.

<sup>96</sup> *Ibid.*, sect. IV.

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8. *Appeals* to the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region to support Mongolia's efforts to join the relevant regional security and economic arrangements;
9. *Requests* the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations bodies to continue to provide assistance to Mongolia in taking the necessary measures mentioned in paragraph 7 above;
10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;
11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status".

### RESOLUTION 73/45

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>97</sup> by a recorded vote of 152 to 7, with 22 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

*Against:* Cambodia, China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Zimbabwe

*Abstaining:* Algeria, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Comoros, Cuba, Egypt, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mali, Myanmar, Niger, Rwanda, Suriname, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

#### **73/45. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the subject of chemical weapons, in particular resolution 72/43 of 4 December 2017,

*Determined* to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and their destruction,

*Reaffirming its strong support* for the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction<sup>98</sup> and for the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and its deep appreciation of the Organisation, which was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 2013 for its extensive efforts to eliminate chemical weapons,

*Re-emphasizing its unequivocal support* for the decision of the Director General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to continue the mission to establish the facts surrounding the allegations of the use of chemical weapons, including toxic chemicals, for hostile purposes in the Syrian Arab Republic, while stressing that

<sup>97</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Poland.

<sup>98</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1974, No. 33757.



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the safety and security of mission personnel remains the top priority, and recalling the work, pursuant to Security Council resolutions [2235 \(2015\)](#) of 7 August 2015 and [2319 \(2016\)](#) of 17 November 2016, of the Joint Investigative Mechanism of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the United Nations, which was established to identify to the greatest extent feasible individuals, entities, groups or Governments that were perpetrators, organizers, sponsors or otherwise involved in the use of chemicals as weapons, including chlorine or any other toxic chemical, in the Syrian Arab Republic, where the fact-finding mission of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons determined that a specific incident in the Syrian Arab Republic involved or likely involved the use of chemicals as weapons,

*Reaffirming* the importance of the outcome of the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, held in The Hague from 8 to 19 April 2013 (the Third Review Conference), including its consensus final report, in which the Conference addressed all aspects of the Convention and made important recommendations on its continued implementation,

*Emphasizing* that the Third Review Conference welcomed the fact that the Convention is a unique multilateral agreement banning an entire category of weapons of mass destruction in a non-discriminatory and verifiable manner under strict and effective international control and noted with satisfaction that the Convention continues to be a remarkable success and an example of effective multilateralism,

*Convinced* that the Convention, 21 years after its entry into force, has reinforced its role as the international norm against chemical weapons, and that it constitutes a major contribution to:

- (a) International peace and security,
- (b) Eliminating chemical weapons and preventing their re-emergence,
- (c) The ultimate objective of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,
- (d) Excluding completely, for the sake of all mankind, the possibility of the use of chemical weapons,
- (e) Promoting international cooperation and exchange in scientific and technical information in the field of chemical activities among States parties for peaceful purposes in order to enhance the economic and technological development of all States parties,

1. *Reaffirms its condemnation in the strongest possible terms* of the use of chemical weapons by anyone under any circumstances, emphasizing that any use of chemical weapons anywhere, at any time, by anyone, under any circumstances is unacceptable and is and would be a violation of international law and expressing its strong conviction that those individuals responsible for the use of chemical weapons must and should be held accountable;

2. *Condemns in the strongest possible terms* that chemical weapons have since 2012 been used in Iraq, Malaysia, the Syrian Arab Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, including as reported by the Joint Investigative Mechanism of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the United Nations in:

(a) Its reports of 24 August 2016<sup>99</sup> and 21 October 2016,<sup>100</sup> which concluded that there was sufficient information to determine that the Syrian Arab Armed Forces were responsible for the attacks which released toxic substances in Talmenes, Syrian Arab Republic, on 21 April 2014, in Sarmin, Syrian Arab Republic, on 16 March 2015, and in Qmenas, Syrian Arab Republic, also on 16 March 2015, and that the so-called “Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant” used sulfur mustard in Marea, Syrian Arab Republic, on 21 August 2015; and

(b) Its report of 26 October 2017,<sup>101</sup> which concluded that there was sufficient information to be confident that Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant was responsible for the use of sulfur mustard at Umm Hawsh on 15 and 16 September 2016 and that the Syrian Arab Republic was responsible for the release of sarin at Khan Shaykhun on 4 April 2017;

and demands that the perpetrators immediately desist from any further use of chemical weapons;

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<sup>99</sup> See [S/2016/738/Rev.1](#).

<sup>100</sup> See [S/2016/888](#).

<sup>101</sup> See [S/2017/904](#).

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3. *Takes note with great concern in that regard* of the reports of the fact-finding mission of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons regarding alleged incidents in Ltamenah, Syrian Arab Republic,<sup>102</sup> and regarding an alleged incident in Saraqib, Syrian Arab Republic,<sup>103</sup> as well as the interim report of the fact-finding mission of the Organisation regarding the incident of alleged use of toxic chemicals as a weapon in Douma, Syrian Arab Republic,<sup>104</sup>

4. *Recalls* the adoption of decision C-SS-4/DEC.3 of the Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties, entitled “Addressing the threat from chemical weapons use”, of 27 June 2018, and stresses the importance of its implementation, in accordance with the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,<sup>98</sup>

5. *Emphasizes* that the universality of the Convention is essential to achieving its object and purpose and to enhancing the security of States parties, as well as to international peace and security, underlines the fact that the objectives of the Convention will not be fully realized as long as there remains even a single State not party to the Convention that could possess or acquire such weapons, and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention without delay;

6. *Underlines* the fact that the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of all articles of the Convention makes a major contribution to international peace and security through the elimination of existing stockpiles of chemical weapons and the prohibition of their acquisition and use, and provides for assistance and protection in the event of use or threat of use of chemical weapons and for international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities;

7. *Notes* the impact of scientific and technological progress on the effective implementation of the Convention and the importance for the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and its policymaking organs of taking due account of such developments;

8. *Reaffirms* that the obligation of the States parties to complete the destruction of chemical weapons stockpiles and the destruction or conversion of chemical weapons production facilities in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the Annex on Implementation and Verification (Verification Annex) and under the verification of the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons is essential for the realization of the object and purpose of the Convention;

9. *Stresses* the importance to the Convention that all possessors of chemical weapons, chemical weapons production facilities or chemical weapons development facilities, including previously declared possessor States, should be among the States parties to the Convention, and welcomes progress to that end;

10. *Recalls* that the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention expressed concern regarding the statement made by the Director General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in his report to the Executive Council of the Organisation at its sixty-eighth session, provided in accordance with paragraph 2 of decision C-16/DEC.11 of 1 December 2011 adopted by the Conference of the States Parties at its sixteenth session, that three possessor States parties, namely, Libya, the Russian Federation and the United States of America, had been unable to fully meet the final extended deadline of 29 April 2012 for the destruction of their chemical weapons stockpiles, and also expressed determination that the destruction of all categories of chemical weapons should be completed in the shortest time possible in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the Verification Annex, and with the full application of the relevant decisions that have been taken;

11. *Welcomes* the confirmation by the Director General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons expressed in his report of 5 October 2017,<sup>105</sup> based upon information received from the Russian Federation and independent information received from the inspectors of the Organisation, regarding the completion of the full destruction of chemical weapons declared by the Russian Federation;

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<sup>102</sup> See S/2017/931, annex, and S/2018/620, annex.

<sup>103</sup> See S/2018/478, annex.

<sup>104</sup> See S/2018/732, annex.

<sup>105</sup> EC-86/DG.31.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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12. *Also welcomes* the completed destruction of Libya's remaining category 2 chemical weapons, as reported by the Director General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in his report of 22 December 2017,<sup>106</sup> as well as the completed destruction by Iraq of its entire declared stockpile of chemical weapons remnants, as reported by the Director General in his report of 28 February 2018;<sup>107</sup>

13. *Notes with concern* that, along with the threat of the possible production, acquisition and use of chemical weapons by States, the international community also faces the danger of the production, acquisition and use of chemical weapons by non-State actors, including terrorists, concerns which have highlighted the necessity of achieving universal adherence to the Convention, as well as the high level of readiness of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, and stresses that the full and effective implementation of all provisions of the Convention, including those on national implementation (article VII) and assistance and protection (article X), constitutes an important contribution to the efforts of the United Nations in the global fight against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

14. *Notes* that the effective application of the verification system builds confidence in compliance with the Convention by States parties;

15. *Stresses* the importance of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in verifying compliance with the provisions of the Convention as well as in promoting the timely and efficient accomplishment of all its objectives;

16. *Expresses grave concern* that, despite the verified destruction of all 27 chemical weapons production facilities declared by the Syrian Arab Republic, the Technical Secretariat, as reported by the Director General, cannot fully verify that the Syrian Arab Republic has submitted a declaration that can be considered accurate and complete in accordance with the Convention or Executive Council decision EC-M-33/DEC.1 as well as with the conclusion of decision C-SS-4/DEC.3, of the Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties that the Syrian Arab Republic failed to declare and destroy all of its chemical weapons and chemical weapons production facilities, and underscores the importance of such full verification;

17. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to meet in full and on time their obligations under the Convention and to support the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in its implementation activities;

18. *Welcomes* the progress made in the national implementation of article VII obligations, commends the States parties and the Technical Secretariat for assisting other States parties, on request, with the implementation of the follow-up to the plan of action regarding article VII obligations, and urges States parties that have not fulfilled their obligations under article VII to do so without further delay, in accordance with their constitutional processes;

19. *Emphasizes* the continuing relevance and importance of the provisions of article X of the Convention, welcomes the activities of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in relation to assistance and protection against chemical weapons, supports further efforts by both States parties and the Technical Secretariat to promote a high level of readiness to respond to chemical weapons threats as articulated in article X, and welcomes the effectiveness and efficiency of the increased focus on making full use of regional and subregional capacities and expertise, including taking advantage of established training centres;

20. *Reaffirms* that the provisions of the Convention shall be implemented in a manner that avoids hampering the economic or technological development of States parties and international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention, including the international exchange of scientific and technical information, and chemicals and equipment for the production, processing or use of chemicals for purposes not prohibited under the Convention;

21. *Emphasizes* the importance of the provisions of article XI of the Convention relating to the economic and technological development of States parties, recalls that the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of those provisions contributes to universality, and reaffirms the undertaking of the States parties to foster international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities of the States parties and the importance of that cooperation and its contribution to the promotion of the Convention as a whole;

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<sup>106</sup> EC-87/DG.6.

<sup>107</sup> EC-87/DG.18.

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22. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing work of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to achieve the object and purpose of the Convention, to ensure the full implementation of its provisions, including those for international verification of compliance with it, and to provide a forum for consultation and cooperation among States parties;

23. *Stresses* the importance of the continued work related to the Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention;

24. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons within the framework of the relationship agreement between the United Nations and the Organisation,<sup>108</sup> in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;

25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction”.

### RESOLUTION 73/46

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101)<sup>109</sup>

#### **73/46. Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* that the Charter of the United Nations reaffirms the equal rights of women and men,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 65/69 of 8 December 2010, 67/48 of 3 December 2012, 68/33 of 5 December 2013, 69/61 of 2 December 2014 and 71/56 of 5 December 2016,

*Recalling further* General Assembly and Security Council resolutions on the issue of women and peace and security,

*Recalling* the 2015 review of the women and peace and security agenda,

*Reaffirming* the Sustainable Development Goals relevant to the promotion of women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, and acknowledging that the success of efforts to achieve sustainable development and disarmament depends on the full and effective inclusion of women in all aspects of these efforts,

*Welcoming* the call for the full and meaningful participation of women in efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit transfer of small arms, pursuant to Security Council resolutions 2106 (2013) of 24 June 2013, 2117 (2013) of 26 September 2013, 2122 (2013) of 18 October 2013 and 2220 (2015) of 22 May 2015,

*Reaffirming* that the equal, full and effective participation of both women and men is one of the essential factors for the promotion and attainment of sustainable peace and security,

*Recognizing* the valuable contribution of women to practical disarmament measures carried out at the local, national, subregional and regional levels in the prevention and reduction of armed violence and armed conflict, and in promoting disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control,

<sup>108</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2160, No. 1240.

<sup>109</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Zambia.

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*Recognizing also* that the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control should be further developed and in particular the need to facilitate the participation and representation of women in policymaking, planning and implementation processes related to disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control,

*Recalling* the entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty,<sup>110</sup> and therefore encouraging States parties to fully implement all the provisions of the Treaty, including the provisions on serious acts of gender-based violence and on violence against children,

*Noting with appreciation* the efforts of Member States to increase the participation of women in their national and regional coordination mechanisms on disarmament-related matters, including in efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

*Recognizing* the important role played by civil society organizations in promoting the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control,

1. *Urges* Member States, relevant subregional and regional organizations, the United Nations and the specialized agencies to promote equal opportunities for the representation of women in all decision-making processes with regard to matters related to disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, in particular as it relates to the prevention and reduction of armed violence and armed conflict;

2. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the measures taken by Member States to implement General Assembly resolution [71/56](#),<sup>111</sup>

3. *Also welcomes* the continuing efforts of the United Nations organs, agencies, funds and programmes to accord high priority to the issue of women and peace and security, and in this regard notes the role of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) in promoting the implementation of all resolutions related to women in the context of peace and security;

4. *Encourages* Member States to better understand the impact of armed violence, in particular the impact of the illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons on women and girls, through, inter alia, the development of national action plans on women and peace and security and strengthening the collection of data disaggregated by sex and age;

5. *Urges* Member States to support and strengthen the effective participation of women in organizations in the field of disarmament at the local, national, subregional and regional levels;

6. *Calls upon* all States to empower women, including through capacity-building efforts, as appropriate, to participate in the design and implementation of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control efforts;

7. *Encourages* States to seriously consider increasing funding for policies and programmes that take account of the differing impacts of illicit small arms and light weapons on women, men, girls and boys;

8. *Calls upon* all States to develop appropriate and effective national risk assessment criteria to facilitate the prevention of the use of arms to commit violence against women and children;

9. *Requests* the relevant United Nations organs, agencies, funds and programmes to assist States, upon request, in promoting the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, including in preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on ways and means of promoting the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control and to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control”.

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<sup>110</sup> See resolution [67/234 B](#).

<sup>111</sup> [A/73/115](#).

RESOLUTION 73/47

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>112</sup> by a recorded vote of 142 to 15, with 26 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Czechia, Estonia, France, Hungary, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Monaco, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Georgia, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Mali, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Ukraine

**73/47. Humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 70/47 of 7 December 2015, 71/46 of 5 December 2016 and 72/30 of 4 December 2017,

*Reiterating* the deep concern about the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons,

*Stressing* that the immense and uncontrollable destructive capability and indiscriminate nature of nuclear weapons cause unacceptable humanitarian consequences, as has been demonstrated through their past use and testing,

*Recalling* that concern about the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons has been reflected in numerous United Nations resolutions, including the first resolution adopted by the General Assembly, on 24 January 1946,

*Recalling also* that at the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, in 1978, the Assembly stressed that nuclear weapons posed the greatest danger to mankind and to the survival of civilization,<sup>113</sup>

*Welcoming* the renewed interest and resolve of the international community, together with the International Committee of the Red Cross and international humanitarian organizations, to address the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons,

*Recalling* that the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons expressed deep concern at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons,<sup>114</sup>

*Noting* the resolution of 26 November 2011 of the Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement entitled "Working towards the elimination of nuclear weapons",

<sup>112</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Eswatini, Fiji, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

<sup>113</sup> See resolution S-10/2.

<sup>114</sup> See 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions.



## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

*Recalling* the joint statements on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons delivered to the General Assembly and during the 2010–2015 cycle of the review of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>115</sup>

*Welcoming* the facts-based discussions on the effects of a nuclear weapon detonation that were held at the conferences on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, convened by Norway, on 4 and 5 March 2013, Mexico, on 13 and 14 February 2014, and Austria, on 8 and 9 December 2014,

*Cognizant* that a key message from experts and international organizations at those conferences was that no State or international body could address the immediate humanitarian emergency caused by a nuclear weapon detonation or provide adequate assistance to victims,

*Firmly believing* that it is in the interest of all States to engage in discussions on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons with the aim of further broadening and deepening the understanding of this matter, and welcoming civil society's ongoing engagement,

*Reaffirming* the role of civil society, in partnership with Governments, in raising awareness about the unacceptable humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons,

*Emphasizing* that the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons affect not only Governments but each and every citizen of our interconnected world and have deep implications for human survival, for the environment, for socioeconomic development, for our economies and for the health of future generations,

1. *Stresses* that it is in the interest of the very survival of humanity that nuclear weapons never be used again, under any circumstances;
2. *Emphasizes* that the only way to guarantee that nuclear weapons will never be used again is their total elimination;
3. *Stresses* that the catastrophic effects of a nuclear weapon detonation, whether by accident, miscalculation or design, cannot be adequately addressed;
4. *Expresses its firm belief* that awareness of the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons must underpin all approaches and efforts towards nuclear disarmament;
5. *Calls upon* all States, in their shared responsibility, to prevent the use of nuclear weapons, to prevent their vertical and horizontal proliferation and to achieve nuclear disarmament;
6. *Urges* States to exert all efforts to totally eliminate the threat of these weapons of mass destruction;
7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons".

### RESOLUTION 73/48

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>116</sup> by a recorded vote of 126 to 41, with 16 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's

<sup>115</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

<sup>116</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cabo Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eswatini, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Ireland, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Finland, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Mali, Marshall Islands, Serbia, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

### 73/48. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution [72/31](#) of 4 December 2017,

1. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons<sup>117</sup> on 7 July 2017;
2. *Notes* that the Treaty has been open for signature at United Nations Headquarters in New York since 20 September 2017;
3. *Welcomes* that already 69 States had signed the Treaty and 19 States had ratified or acceded to it as at 17 October 2018;
4. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to sign, ratify, accept, approve or accede to the Treaty at the earliest possible date;
5. *Calls upon* those States in a position to do so to promote adherence to the Treaty through bilateral, subregional, regional and multilateral contacts, outreach and other means;
6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as depositary of the Treaty, to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the status of signature and ratification, acceptance, approval or accession of the Treaty;
7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons".

### RESOLUTION 73/49

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/510](#) and [A/73/510/Corr.1](#), para. 101),<sup>118</sup> by a recorded vote of 171 to 1, with 12 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania,

<sup>117</sup> [A/CONF.229/2017/8](#).

<sup>118</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Iran (Islamic Republic of)

*Abstaining:* Algeria, China, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Syrian Arab Republic, Yemen

### 73/49. The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation

*The General Assembly,*

*Concerned* about the increasing regional and global security challenges caused, inter alia, by the ongoing proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction,

*Bearing in mind* the purposes and principles of the United Nations and its role and responsibility in the field of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

*Emphasizing* the significance of regional and international efforts to prevent and curb comprehensively the proliferation of ballistic missile systems capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction, as a contribution to international peace and security,

*Welcoming* the adoption of the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation on 25 November 2002 at The Hague,<sup>119</sup> and convinced that the Code of Conduct will contribute to enhancing transparency and confidence among States,

*Recalling* its resolutions 59/91 of 3 December 2004, 60/62 of 8 December 2005, 63/64 of 2 December 2008, 65/73 of 8 December 2010, 67/42 of 3 December 2012, 69/44 of 2 December 2014 and 71/33 of 5 December 2016 entitled “The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation”,

*Recalling also* that the proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction, as recognized by the Security Council in its resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004 and subsequent resolutions, constitutes a threat to international peace and security,

*Confirming its commitment* to the Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the Benefit and in the Interest of All States, Taking into Particular Account the Needs of Developing Countries, as contained in the annex to its resolution 51/122 of 13 December 1996,

*Recognizing* that States should not be excluded from utilizing the benefits of space for peaceful purposes, but that in reaping such benefits and in conducting related cooperation they must not contribute to the proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of carrying weapons of mass destruction,

*Noting* the efforts of subscribing States, undertaken in cooperation with the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, to raise awareness of the Code of Conduct through the preparation of educational material,

*Mindful* of the need to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

1. *Welcomes* the fact that 139 States have so far subscribed to the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation<sup>119</sup> as a practical step against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

2. *Also welcomes* the advancement of the universalization process of the Code of Conduct, and underscores the importance of further advancing, at both the regional and the international levels, the universalization of the Code;

<sup>119</sup> A/57/724, enclosure.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

3. *Invites* all States that have not yet subscribed to the Code of Conduct, in particular those possessing space launch vehicle and ballistic missile capabilities and those developing corresponding national programmes, to do so, bearing in mind the right to use space for peaceful purposes;

4. *Encourages* States that have already subscribed to the Code of Conduct to make efforts to increase participation in the Code and to further improve its implementation;

5. *Notes* progress in the implementation of the Code of Conduct, which contributes to enhancing transparency and building confidence among States through the submission of pre-launch notifications and annual declarations on space launch vehicle and ballistic missile policies, and underlines the importance of further steps in this direction;

6. *Encourages* the exploration of further ways and means to deal effectively with the problem of the proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction, to take the measures necessary to avoid contributing to such delivery systems, and to continue to deepen the relationship between the Code of Conduct and the United Nations;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation”.

### RESOLUTION 73/50

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>120</sup> by a recorded vote of 125 to 40, with 18 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Cyprus, India, Ireland, Japan, Liechtenstein, Malta, Marshall Islands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, South Africa, Sweden

#### 73/50. Nuclear disarmament

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 49/75 E of 15 December 1994 on a step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat, and its resolutions 50/70 P of 12 December 1995, 51/45 O of 10 December 1996, 52/38 L of 9 December 1997, 53/77 X of 4 December 1998, 54/54 P of 1 December 1999, 55/33 T of 20 November 2000, 56/24 R of 29 November 2001, 57/79 of 22 November 2002, 58/56 of 8 December 2003, 59/77 of 3 December 2004, 60/70 of 8 December 2005,

<sup>120</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Eswatini, Fiji, Ghana, Honduras, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Philippines, Samoa, Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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61/78 of 6 December 2006, 62/42 of 5 December 2007, 63/46 of 2 December 2008, 64/53 of 2 December 2009, 65/56 of 8 December 2010, 66/51 of 2 December 2011, 67/60 of 3 December 2012, 68/47 of 5 December 2013, 69/48 of 2 December 2014, 70/52 of 7 December 2015, 71/63 of 5 December 2016 and 72/38 of 4 December 2017 on nuclear disarmament,

*Reaffirming* the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

*Bearing in mind* that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1972<sup>121</sup> and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1993<sup>122</sup> have already established legal regimes on the complete prohibition of biological and chemical weapons, respectively, and determined to achieve a comprehensive nuclear weapons convention on the prohibition of the development, testing, production, stockpiling, loan, transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and on their destruction, and to conclude such an international convention at an early date,

*Recognizing* the urgent need to take concrete practical steps towards achieving the establishment of a world free of nuclear weapons,

*Bearing in mind* paragraph 50 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,<sup>123</sup> calling for the urgent negotiation of agreements for the cessation of the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear-weapon systems and for a comprehensive and phased programme with agreed time frames, wherever feasible, for the progressive and balanced reduction of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, leading to their ultimate and complete elimination at the earliest possible time,

*Reaffirming* the conviction of the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons<sup>124</sup> that the Treaty is a cornerstone of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, and the importance of the decision on strengthening the review process for the Treaty, the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, the decision on the extension of the Treaty and the resolution on the Middle East, adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>125</sup>

*Stressing* the importance of the 13 steps for the systematic and progressive efforts to achieve the objective of nuclear disarmament leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons, as agreed to by the States parties in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>126</sup>

*Recognizing* the important work done at the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>127</sup> and affirming its 22-point action plan on nuclear disarmament as an impetus to intensify work aimed at beginning negotiations for a nuclear weapons convention,

*Expressing deep concern* that the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held from 27 April to 22 May 2015, did not reach agreement on a substantive final document,

*Reaffirming* the continued validity of agreements reached at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference and the 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences until all their objectives are achieved, and calling for their full and immediate fulfilment, including the action plan on nuclear disarmament adopted at the 2010 Review Conference,

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<sup>121</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.

<sup>122</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1974, No. 33757.

<sup>123</sup> Resolution S-10/2.

<sup>124</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

<sup>125</sup> See 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, *Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)/Corr.2), annex.

<sup>126</sup> 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, *Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled “Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs”, para. 15.

<sup>127</sup> 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, *Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I), NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. II) and NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. III)).



## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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*Reiterating* the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly and by the international community,

*Reiterating its call* for an early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,<sup>128</sup>

*Noting* the new strategic arms reduction treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States of America, in order to achieve further cuts in their deployed and non-deployed strategic nuclear weapons, and stressing that such cuts should be irreversible, verifiable and transparent,

*Noting also* the statements by nuclear-weapon States of their intention to pursue actions in achieving a world free of nuclear weapons, as well as the steps taken to reduce the role and number of nuclear weapons, and urging nuclear-weapon States to take further measures for progress on nuclear disarmament within a specified framework of time,

*Recognizing* the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament, and that bilateral negotiations can never replace multilateral negotiations in this respect,

*Noting* the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States, without exception or discrimination, against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances, and the multilateral efforts in the Conference to reach agreement on such an international convention at an early date,

*Recalling* the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons, issued on 8 July 1996,<sup>129</sup> and welcoming the unanimous reaffirmation by all judges of the Court that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

*Recalling also* paragraph 176 of the Final Document of the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, in which the Conference on Disarmament was called upon to agree on a balanced and comprehensive programme of work by, inter alia, establishing an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament as soon as possible and as the highest priority, while the necessity was emphasized of starting negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament, without further delay, on a comprehensive nuclear weapons convention that sets, inter alia, a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time,

*Noting* the adoption of the programme of work for the 2009 session by the Conference on Disarmament on 29 May 2009,<sup>130</sup> after years of stalemate, and regretting that the Conference did not succeed in reaching consensus on a programme of work for its 2018 session,

*Welcoming* the proposals submitted by the States members of the Conference on Disarmament that are members of the Group of 21 on the follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, pursuant to Assembly resolution 68/32 of 5 December 2013, as contained in documents of the Conference,<sup>131</sup>

*Reaffirming* the importance and validity of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, and expressing the need to adopt and implement a balanced and comprehensive programme of work on the basis of its agenda and dealing with, inter alia, four core issues, in accordance with the rules of procedure,<sup>132</sup> and by taking into consideration the security concerns of all States,

*Reaffirming also* the specific mandate conferred upon the Disarmament Commission by the General Assembly, in its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998, to discuss the subject of nuclear disarmament as one of its main substantive agenda items,

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<sup>128</sup> See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

<sup>129</sup> A/51/218, annex.

<sup>130</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/64/27)*, para. 18.

<sup>131</sup> See CD/1999 and CD/2067.

<sup>132</sup> CD/8/Rev.9.



## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>133</sup> in which Heads of State and Government resolved to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving that aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

*Underlining* the importance of convening, as a priority, a United Nations high-level international conference on nuclear disarmament to review the progress made in this regard,

*Recalling* the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament held on 26 September 2013, and the strong support for nuclear disarmament expressed therein,

*Welcoming* the commemoration of 26 September as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, devoted to furthering this objective, as declared by the General Assembly in its resolution [68/32](#) and subsequently welcomed in its resolutions [69/58](#) of 2 December 2014, [70/34](#) of 7 December 2015, [71/71](#) of 5 December 2016 and [72/251](#) of 24 December 2017,

*Taking note* of the declaration of the States members of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean on the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, in Mexico City on 26 September 2018,<sup>134</sup>

*Expressing deep concern* about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons,

*Noting* the successful convening of the first, second and third Conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, in Oslo on 4 and 5 March 2013, in Nayarit, Mexico, on 13 and 14 February 2014, and in Vienna on 8 and 9 December 2014, and noting also that 127 nations have formally endorsed the Humanitarian Pledge issued following the third Conference,<sup>135</sup>

*Welcoming* the signing by the nuclear-weapon States, namely, China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, of the Protocol to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, in New York on 6 May 2014,

*Welcoming also* the proclamation of Latin America and the Caribbean as a Zone of Peace on 29 January 2014 during the Second Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, held in Havana on 28 and 29 January 2014,

*Welcoming further* the successful adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons<sup>136</sup> on 7 July 2017,

*Reaffirming* that, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, States should refrain from the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons in settling their disputes in international relations,

*Seized* of the danger of the use of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, in terrorist acts and the urgent need for concerted international efforts to control and overcome it,

1. *Urges* all nuclear-weapon States to take effective disarmament measures to achieve the total elimination of all nuclear weapons at the earliest possible time;

2. *Reaffirms* that nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation are substantively interrelated and mutually reinforcing, that the two processes must go hand in hand and that there is a genuine need for a systematic and progressive process of nuclear disarmament;

3. *Welcomes and encourages* the efforts to establish new nuclear-weapon-free zones in different parts of the world, including the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons, on the basis of agreements or arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the regions concerned, which is an effective measure for limiting the further spread of nuclear weapons geographically and contributes to the cause of nuclear disarmament;

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<sup>133</sup> Resolution [55/2](#).

<sup>134</sup> [A/73/403](#), annex.

<sup>135</sup> See [CD/2039](#).

<sup>136</sup> [A/CONF.229/2017/8](#).

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4. *Encourages* States parties to the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone<sup>137</sup> and the nuclear-weapon States to intensify ongoing efforts to resolve all outstanding issues, in accordance with the objectives and principles of the Treaty;
5. *Recognizes* that there is a genuine need to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in strategic doctrines and security policies to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;
6. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to stop immediately the qualitative improvement, development, production and stockpiling of nuclear warheads and their delivery systems;
7. *Also urges* the nuclear-weapon States, as an interim measure, to de-alert and deactivate immediately their nuclear weapons and to take other concrete measures to reduce further the operational status of their nuclear-weapon systems, while stressing that reductions in deployments and in operational status cannot substitute for irreversible cuts in and the total elimination of nuclear weapons;
8. *Reiterates its call upon* the nuclear-weapon States to carry out effective nuclear disarmament measures with a view to achieving the total elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time;
9. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States, pending the achievement of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, to agree on an internationally and legally binding instrument on a joint undertaking not to be the first to use nuclear weapons;
10. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to commence plurilateral negotiations among themselves at an appropriate stage on further deep reductions of their nuclear weapons, in an irreversible, verifiable and transparent manner, as an effective measure of nuclear disarmament;
11. *Underlines* the importance of applying the principles of transparency, irreversibility and verifiability to the process of nuclear disarmament;
12. *Also underlines* the importance of the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties are committed under article VI of the Treaty,<sup>126</sup> and the reaffirmation by the States parties that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;<sup>138</sup>
13. *Calls for* the full and effective implementation of the 13 practical steps for nuclear disarmament contained in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference,<sup>126</sup>
14. *Also calls for* the full implementation of the action plan as set out in the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions of the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, particularly the 22-point action plan on nuclear disarmament;<sup>127</sup>
15. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to carry out further reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons, including on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;
16. *Calls for* the immediate commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament, in the context of an agreed, comprehensive and balanced programme of work, on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator<sup>139</sup> and the mandate contained therein;
17. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to commence as early as possible its substantive work during its 2019 session, on the basis of a comprehensive and balanced programme of work that takes into consideration all the real and existing priorities in the field of disarmament and arms control, including the immediate commencement of negotiations on a comprehensive nuclear weapons convention;

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<sup>137</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

<sup>138</sup> 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, *Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VII and the security of non-nuclear-weapon States", para. 2.

<sup>139</sup> CD/1299.

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18. *Calls for* the conclusion of an international legal instrument on unconditional security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

19. *Also calls for* the early entry into force, universalization and strict observance of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty<sup>128</sup> as a contribution to nuclear disarmament, while welcoming the latest signatory to the Treaty, Tuvalu, and its latest ratification, by Thailand, on 25 September 2018;

20. *Reiterates its call upon* the Conference on Disarmament to establish, as soon as possible and as the highest priority, an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament in 2019 and to commence negotiations on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time;

21. *Calls for* the convening, as soon as possible, of a United Nations high-level international conference on nuclear disarmament to review the progress made in this regard;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Nuclear disarmament”.

### RESOLUTION 73/51

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101)<sup>140</sup>

#### 73/51. Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided by* the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Bearing in mind* the contribution of confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms, adopted on the initiative and with the agreement of the States concerned, to the improvement of the overall international peace and security situation,

*Convinced* that the relationship between the development of confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms and the international security environment can also be mutually reinforcing,

*Considering* the important role that confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms can also play in creating favourable conditions for progress in the field of disarmament,

*Recognizing* that the exchange of information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms contributes to mutual understanding and confidence among Member States,

*Underlining* that confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms are key tools in strengthening conflict prevention and reducing armed violence, thereby contributing to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>141</sup>

*Recalling* its resolutions 59/92 of 3 December 2004, 60/82 of 8 December 2005, 61/79 of 6 December 2006, 63/57 of 2 December 2008, 65/63 of 8 December 2010, 67/49 of 3 December 2012, 69/64 of 2 December 2014 and 71/35 of 5 December 2016,

<sup>140</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

<sup>141</sup> Resolution 70/1.

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1. *Welcomes* all confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms already undertaken by Member States;
2. *Encourages* Member States to continue to adopt and apply confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;
3. *Invites* Member States to submit to the Secretariat, on a voluntary basis, information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;
4. *Encourages* Member States to establish or continue dialogues on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;
5. *Appreciates* the continuing operation of the Secretariat database containing information provided by Member States,<sup>142</sup> and requests the Secretary-General to keep the database updated and to assist Member States, at their request, in confidence-building activities and in the organization of seminars, courses and workshops aimed at enhancing the knowledge of new developments in this field;
6. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Disarmament Commission in April 2017 of recommendations on practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons;<sup>143</sup>
7. *Notes* that, in those recommendations, Member States are encouraged, as appropriate, and on a voluntary basis, to exchange information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons at the bilateral, subregional, regional and international levels and to draw lessons learned from other mechanisms;
8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms”.

### RESOLUTION 73/52

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101)<sup>144</sup>

#### **73/52. Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 72/40 of 4 December 2017,

*Deeply concerned* by the magnitude of human casualty and suffering, especially among children, caused by the illicit proliferation and use of small arms and light weapons,

*Concerned* by the negative impact that the illicit proliferation and use of those weapons continue to have on the efforts of States in the Sahelo-Saharan subregion in the areas of poverty eradication, sustainable development and the maintenance of peace, security and stability,

*Bearing in mind* the Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons, adopted in Bamako on 1 December 2000,<sup>145</sup>

<sup>142</sup> See [www.un.org/disarmament/cbms](http://www.un.org/disarmament/cbms).

<sup>143</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/72/42)*, annex.

<sup>144</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Comoros, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Mali (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Economic Community of West African States), Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

<sup>145</sup> A/CONF.192/PC/23, annex.

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*Recalling* the report of the Secretary-General entitled “In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all”,<sup>146</sup> in which he emphasized that States must strive just as hard to eliminate the threat of small arms and light weapons as they do to eliminate the threat of weapons of mass destruction,

*Recalling also* the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, adopted on 8 December 2005,<sup>147</sup>

*Recalling further* the expression of support in the 2005 World Summit Outcome for the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,<sup>148</sup>

*Recalling* the adoption, on 14 June 2006 in Abuja at the thirtieth ordinary summit of the Economic Community of West African States, of the Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials, in replacement of the moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in West Africa,

*Recalling also* the entry into force of the Convention on 29 September 2009,

*Recalling further* the decision taken by the Economic Community to establish the Small Arms Unit, responsible for advocating appropriate policies and developing and implementing programmes, as well as the establishment of the Economic Community’s Small Arms Control Programme, launched on 6 June 2006 in Bamako, in replacement of the Programme for Coordination and Assistance for Security and Development,

*Taking note* of the latest report of the Secretary-General on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects and assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them,<sup>149</sup>

*Recalling*, in that regard, the decision of the European Union to significantly support the Economic Community in its efforts to combat the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons,

*Recognizing* the important role that civil society organizations play, by raising public awareness, in efforts to curb the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons,

*Recalling* the report of the sixth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 6 to 10 June 2016,<sup>150</sup>

*Recalling also* the report of the third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 18 to 29 June 2018,<sup>151</sup>

*Welcoming* the inclusion of small arms and light weapons in the scope of the Arms Trade Treaty,<sup>152</sup> as well as the inclusion of international assistance in its provisions,

1. *Commends* the United Nations and international, regional and other organizations for their assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

2. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to pursue his efforts in the context of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/75 G of 15 December 1994 and the recommendations of the United Nations advisory missions aimed at curbing the illicit circulation of small arms and light weapons and collecting them in the affected States that so request, with the support of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and in close cooperation with the African Union;

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<sup>146</sup> [A/59/2005](#).

<sup>147</sup> See decision 60/519 and [A/60/88](#) and [A/60/88/Corr.2](#), annex.

<sup>148</sup> Resolution 60/1, para. 94.

<sup>149</sup> [A/73/168](#).

<sup>150</sup> [A/CONF.192/BMS/2016/2](#).

<sup>151</sup> [A/CONF.192/2018/RC/3](#).

<sup>152</sup> See resolution [67/234 B](#).

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3. *Encourages* the international community to support the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials;
4. *Encourages* the countries of the Sahelo-Saharan subregion to facilitate the effective functioning of national commissions to combat the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons, and in that regard invites the international community to lend its support wherever possible;
5. *Encourages* the collaboration of civil society organizations and associations in the efforts of the national commissions to combat the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;<sup>153</sup>
6. *Encourages* cooperation among State organs, international organizations and civil society in support of programmes and projects aimed at combating the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;
7. *Calls upon* the international community to provide technical and financial support to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to take action to help to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;
8. *Invites* the Secretary-General and those States and organizations that are in a position to do so to continue to provide assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;
9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to consider the matter and to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution;
10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them”.

### RESOLUTION 73/53

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101)<sup>154</sup>

#### **73/53. Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/45 N of 10 December 1996, 52/38 G of 9 December 1997, 53/77 M of 4 December 1998, 54/54 H of 1 December 1999, 55/33 G of 20 November 2000, 56/24 P of 29 November 2001 and 57/81 of 22 November 2002, its decision 58/519 of 8 December 2003, as well as its resolutions 59/82 of 3 December 2004, 61/76 of 6 December 2006, 63/62 of 2 December 2008, 65/67 of 8 December 2010, 67/50 of 3 December 2012, 69/60 of 2 December 2014 and 71/64 of 5 December 2016, entitled “Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures”,

*Convinced* that a comprehensive and integrated approach towards certain practical disarmament measures often is a prerequisite to maintaining and consolidating peace and security and thus provides a basis for effective post-conflict peacebuilding; such measures include collection and responsible disposal, preferably through destruction, of

<sup>153</sup> Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001 (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

<sup>154</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.



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weapons obtained through illicit trafficking or illicit manufacture as well as of stockpiled weapons and ammunition declared by competent national authorities to be surplus to requirements, particularly with regard to small arms and light weapons, unless another form of disposition or use has been officially authorized and provided that such weapons have been duly marked and registered; confidence-building measures; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants; demining; and conversion,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the international community is more than ever applying such practical disarmament measures, especially with regard to the growing problems arising from the excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread of small arms and light weapons, including their ammunition, which pose a threat to peace and security and reduce the prospects for economic and social development in many regions, particularly in post-conflict situations,

*Welcoming* the evolution of the “second generation” concept for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, which takes into account increasingly complex peacekeeping environments characterized by, inter alia, political instability and a prevalence of weapons and ammunition, and which integrates innovative approaches, such as fostering community violence reduction programmes, to better address needs on the ground,

*Recalling* Security Council resolution 2171 (2014) of 21 August 2014, in which the Council affirmed that a comprehensive conflict prevention strategy should include practical disarmament and other measures to contribute to combating the proliferation of and illicit trade in arms,

*Recalling also* its resolution 71/56 of 5 December 2016 on women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, in which it recognized the valuable contribution of women to practical disarmament measures carried out at the local, national, subregional and regional levels in the prevention and reduction of armed violence and armed conflict, and in promoting disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control,

*Emphasizing* that the meaningful participation of women must be ensured in disarmament, including mine action and the control of small arms and light weapons,

*Welcoming* the work of the United Nations Coordinating Action on Small Arms mechanism, which was established by the Secretary-General to bring about a holistic and multidisciplinary approach to the complex and multifaceted global problems related to small arms,

*Welcoming also* the report of the third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,<sup>155</sup> in which the Review Conference, inter alia, underlined the importance of the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action<sup>156</sup> and the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (the International Tracing Instrument)<sup>157</sup> for attaining Goal 16 and target 16.4 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>158</sup> and called for the further strengthening of international cooperation and assistance for the implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument,

*Reaffirming* the importance of the early designation of the President of the Review Conference and the Chair of future meetings on the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, and encouraging the relevant regional group to make such a nomination, if possible, at least one year in advance of the meeting,

*Welcoming* the practice of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat in regularly providing information in presentations, in hard copy and online, regarding requests for assistance from States as presented in their national reports under the Programme of Action,<sup>159</sup> with a view to facilitating the matching of assistance needs with available resources,

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<sup>155</sup> A/CONF.192/2018/RC/3.

<sup>156</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects*, New York, 9–20 July 2001 (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

<sup>157</sup> See decision 60/519 and A/60/88 and A/60/88/Corr.2, annex.

<sup>158</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>159</sup> Available at <https://smallarms.un-arm.org/international-assistance>.

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*Welcoming also* the sustainable operation of the flexible, voluntary United Nations Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation, pursuant to the Programme of Action and the outcome of the second United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action,<sup>160</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 71/64;<sup>161</sup>
2. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of United Nations-mandated peacekeeping missions, as appropriate and with the consent of the host State, to include practical disarmament measures aimed at addressing the illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, including through weapons collection, disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration programmes and enhancing physical security and stockpile management practices, as well as relevant training programmes, with a view to promoting and implementing an integrated comprehensive and effective weapons management strategy that would contribute to a sustainable peacebuilding process, and, in so doing, strive to achieve the goals set out in Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women and peace and security;
3. *Also welcomes* the expert discussions organized within the Group of Interested States for Practical Disarmament Measures in 2017 and 2018;
4. *Encourages* Member States in a position to do so to financially contribute to the United Nations Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation;
5. *Encourages* States parties to the Arms Trade Treaty<sup>162</sup> in a position to do so to financially contribute to the Treaty voluntary trust fund;
6. *Welcomes* the synergies within the multi-stakeholder process, including Governments, the United Nations system, regional and subregional organizations and institutions, as well as non-governmental organizations, in support of practical disarmament measures and the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;<sup>166</sup>
7. *Decides* to remain attentive to the matter.

### RESOLUTION 73/54

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>163</sup> by a recorded vote of 144 to 1, with 38 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,

<sup>160</sup> A/CONF.192/2012/RC/4, annexes I and II.

<sup>161</sup> A/73/168.

<sup>162</sup> See resolution 67/234 B.

<sup>163</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, France, Germany, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

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Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia

*Against:* Zimbabwe

*Abstaining:* Argentina, Armenia, Bahrain, Belarus, Brazil, China, Cyprus, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Kuwait, Latvia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam

### 73/54. Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 63/71 of 2 December 2008 on the Convention on Cluster Munitions and 70/54 of 7 December 2015, 71/45 of 5 December 2016 and 72/54 of 4 December 2017 on the implementation of the Convention,

*Reaffirming its determination* to put an end for all time to the suffering and casualties caused by cluster munitions at the time of their use, when they fail to function as intended or when they are abandoned,

*Deploing* the recent cases of cluster munitions use and related civilian casualties, and calling upon those who continue to use cluster munitions to cease any such activity immediately,

*Conscious* that cluster munition remnants kill or maim civilians, including women and children, obstruct economic and social development, including through the loss of livelihood, impede post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction, delay or prevent the return of refugees and internally displaced persons, can have a negative impact on national and international peacebuilding and humanitarian assistance efforts, and have other severe consequences for many years after use,

*Concerned* about the dangers presented by the large national stockpiles of cluster munitions retained for operational use, and determined to ensure their rapid destruction,

*Recognizing* the impact of cluster munitions on women, men, girls and boys and the importance of relevant States providing adequate, gender- and age-sensitive assistance to victims of cluster munitions,

*Believing it necessary* to contribute effectively in an efficient, coordinated manner to resolving the challenge of removing cluster munition remnants located throughout the world, and to ensure their destruction,

*Mindful* of the need to coordinate adequately efforts undertaken in various forums, including through the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>164</sup> to address the rights and needs of victims of various types of weapons, and resolved to avoid discrimination among victims of various types of weapons,

*Reaffirming* that in cases not covered by the Convention on Cluster Munitions<sup>165</sup> or by other international agreements, civilians and combatants remain under the protection and authority of the principles of international law, derived from established custom, from the principles of humanity and from the dictates of public conscience,

*Welcoming* the steps taken nationally, regionally and globally in recent years aimed at prohibiting, restricting or suspending the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of cluster munitions, and welcoming in this regard that, since 2014, all Central American States have joined the Convention, thus fulfilling their aspiration to become the first cluster munitions-free region in the world,

*Stressing* the role of public conscience in furthering the principles of humanity, as evidenced by the global call for an end to civilian suffering caused by cluster munitions, and recognizing the efforts to that end undertaken by the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Cluster Munition Coalition and numerous other non-governmental organizations around the world,

*Noting* that a total of 120 States have joined the Convention, 104 as States parties and 16 as signatories,

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<sup>164</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>165</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2688, No. 47713.

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*Recalling* that 2018 marks the tenth anniversary of the Convention, and emphasizing the need to make further efforts in accelerating the universalization process,

*Taking note* of the initiative of the Secretary-General, *Securing Our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament*, in particular part III entitled “Disarmament that saves lives”,

*Taking note also* of the 2015 Dubrovnik Declaration<sup>166</sup> and the Dubrovnik Action Plan<sup>167</sup> adopted at the first Review Conference of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, held in Dubrovnik, Croatia, from 7 to 11 September 2015,

*Taking note further* of the political declaration establishing 2030 as a target date to implement all individual and collective outstanding obligations under the Convention as adopted by consensus under the presidency of the Netherlands at the sixth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, held in Geneva from 5 to 7 September 2016,

*Welcoming* the dialogue undertaken by the German presidency of the seventh Meeting of States Parties with States not parties to the Convention, including the military-to-military dialogue, in support of universal adherence to the Convention, and recognizing the assistance that the country coalition concept can provide to affected countries in the implementation of their obligations under the Convention,

*Recognizing* the importance of full involvement and equal opportunities for the meaningful participation of women and men in disarmament processes, policy and programming decisions related to the Convention,

1. *Urges* all States outside the Convention on Cluster Munitions<sup>165</sup> to join as soon as possible, whether by ratifying or acceding to it, and all States parties that are in a position to do so to promote adherence to the Convention through bilateral, subregional and multilateral contacts, outreach and other means;

2. *Stresses* the importance of the full and effective implementation of and compliance with the Convention, including through the implementation of the Dubrovnik Action Plan;<sup>167</sup>

3. *Expresses strong concern* regarding the number of allegations, reports or documented evidence of the use of cluster munitions in different parts of the world, related civilian casualties and other consequences that impede the achievement of sustainable development;

4. *Urges* all States parties to provide the Secretary-General with complete and timely information as required under article 7 of the Convention in order to promote transparency and compliance with the Convention;

5. *Invites* all States that have not ratified the Convention or acceded to it to provide, on a voluntary basis, information that could make the clearance and destruction of cluster munition remnants and related activities more effective;

6. *Reiterates* the invitation to States not parties to participate in a continued dialogue on issues relevant to the Convention in order to enhance its humanitarian impact and to promote its universalization, as well as to engage in a military-to-military dialogue in order to address specific security issues related to cluster munitions;

7. *Reiterates its invitation and encouragement* to all States parties, interested States, the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Cluster Munition Coalition and other relevant non-governmental organizations to participate in the future meetings of States parties to the Convention;

8. *Calls upon* States parties and participating States to address issues arising from outstanding dues, including options to ensure sustainable financing for the meetings and prompt payment of respective shares of the estimated costs;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions”.

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<sup>166</sup> CCM/CONF/2015/7 and CCM/CONF/2015/7/Corr.1, annex I.

<sup>167</sup> Ibid., annex III.

RESOLUTION 73/55

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101)<sup>168</sup>

**73/55. Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 72/42 of 4 December 2017,

*Recognizing* the determination of the international community to combat terrorism, as evidenced in relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions,

*Deeply concerned* by the growing risk of linkages between terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, and in particular by the fact that terrorists may seek to acquire weapons of mass destruction,

*Cognizant* of the steps taken by States to implement Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004 on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction,

*Taking note* of Security Council resolution 2325 (2016) of 15 December 2016 on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction,

*Welcoming* the entry into force on 7 July 2007 of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,<sup>169</sup>

*Welcoming also* the adoption, by consensus, of amendments to strengthen the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material<sup>170</sup> by the International Atomic Energy Agency on 8 July 2005, and their entry into force on 8 May 2016,

*Noting* the support expressed in the Final Document of the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, for measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction,

*Noting also* that the Group of Eight, the European Union, the Regional Forum of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and others have taken into account in their deliberations the dangers posed by the likely acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction and the need for international cooperation in combating it, and that the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism has been launched jointly by the Russian Federation and the United States of America,

*Noting further* the holding of the Nuclear Security Summit on 12 and 13 April 2010 in Washington, D.C., on 26 and 27 March 2012 in Seoul, on 24 and 25 March 2014 in The Hague and on 31 March and 1 April 2016 in Washington, D.C.,

*Noting* the holding of the high-level meeting on countering nuclear terrorism, with a focus on strengthening the legal framework, in New York on 28 September 2012,

*Acknowledging* the consideration of issues relating to terrorism and weapons of mass destruction by the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters,<sup>171</sup>

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<sup>168</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

<sup>169</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2445, No. 44004.

<sup>170</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1456, No. 24631.

<sup>171</sup> See A/59/361.

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*Taking note* of the holding by the International Atomic Energy Agency of the International Conference on Nuclear Security: Commitments and Actions, in Vienna in December 2016, and the first International Conference on Nuclear Security: Enhancing Global Efforts, in Vienna in July 2013, and the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the Agency at its sixty-second regular session,

*Taking note also* of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, approved by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency on 8 September 2003, and the supplementary Guidance on the Management of Disused Radioactive Sources, approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 11 September 2017,

*Taking note further* of the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on 16 September 2005<sup>172</sup> and the adoption of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy on 8 September 2006,<sup>173</sup>

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of resolution 72/42,<sup>174</sup>

*Mindful* of the urgent need for addressing, within the United Nations framework and through international cooperation, this threat to humanity,

*Emphasizing* that progress is urgently needed in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to maintain international peace and security and to contribute to global efforts against terrorism,

1. *Calls upon* all Member States to support international efforts to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

2. *Appeals* to all Member States to consider early accession to and ratification of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,<sup>169</sup> and encourages States parties to the Convention to review its implementation;

3. *Urges* all Member States to take and strengthen national measures, as appropriate, to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and materials and technologies related to their manufacture;

4. *Encourages* cooperation among and between Member States and relevant regional and international organizations for strengthening national capacities in this regard;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to compile a report on measures already taken by international organizations on issues relating to the linkage between the fight against terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and to seek the views of Member States on additional relevant measures, including national measures, for tackling the global threat posed by the acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction and to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction”.

### RESOLUTION 73/56

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>175</sup> by a recorded vote of 126 to 49, with 11 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador,

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<sup>172</sup> Resolution 60/1.

<sup>173</sup> Resolution 60/288.

<sup>174</sup> A/73/112.

<sup>175</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Central African Republic, Cuba, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Samoa, Seychelles, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam.



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Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, China, Georgia, Japan, Mali, Marshall Islands, Russian Federation, Serbia, Uzbekistan

### 73/56. Reducing nuclear danger

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to humankind and to the survival of civilization,

*Reaffirming* that any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would constitute a violation of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Convinced* that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects would seriously enhance the danger of nuclear war,

*Convinced also* that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

*Considering* that, until nuclear weapons cease to exist, it is imperative on the part of the nuclear-weapon States to adopt measures that assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Considering also* that the hair-trigger alert of nuclear weapons carries unacceptable risks of unintentional or accidental use of nuclear weapons, which would have catastrophic consequences for all humankind,

*Emphasizing* the need to adopt measures to avoid accidental, unauthorized or unexplained incidents arising from computer anomalies or other technical malfunctions,

*Conscious* that limited steps relating to de-alerting and de-targeting have been taken by the nuclear-weapon States and that further practical, realistic and mutually reinforcing steps are necessary to contribute to the improvement in the international climate for negotiations leading to the elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Mindful* that a diminishing role for nuclear weapons in the security policies of nuclear-weapon States would have a positive impact on international peace and security and improve the conditions for the further reduction and the elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Reiterating* the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly<sup>176</sup> and by the international community,

*Recalling* the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons<sup>177</sup> that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

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<sup>176</sup> Resolution S-10/2.

<sup>177</sup> A/51/218, annex.

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*Recalling also* the call, in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>178</sup> to seek to eliminate the dangers posed by weapons of mass destruction and the resolve to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

1. *Calls for* a review of nuclear doctrines and, in this context, immediate and urgent steps to reduce the risks of unintentional and accidental use of nuclear weapons, including through de-alerting and de-targeting nuclear weapons;
2. *Requests* the five nuclear-weapon States to take measures towards the implementation of paragraph 1 above;
3. *Calls upon* Member States to take the measures necessary to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to promote nuclear disarmament, with the objective of eliminating nuclear weapons;
4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of its resolution 72/41 of 4 December 2017;<sup>179</sup>
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts and support initiatives that would contribute to the full implementation of the seven recommendations identified in the report of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters that would significantly reduce the risk of nuclear war,<sup>180</sup> and also to continue to encourage Member States to consider the convening of an international conference, as proposed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>178</sup> to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;
6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Reducing nuclear danger”.

### RESOLUTION 73/57

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>181</sup> by a recorded vote of 138 to 21, with 26 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Belgium, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Slovenia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Japan, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine

<sup>178</sup> Resolution 55/2.

<sup>179</sup> A/73/116.

<sup>180</sup> A/56/400, para. 3.

<sup>181</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Central African Republic, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Eritrea, Guatemala, Guinea, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Palau, Paraguay, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zambia.

### 73/57. Universal Declaration on the Achievement of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its longstanding support for the total elimination of all nuclear weapons and its resolution 70/57 of 7 December 2015, by which it adopted the Universal Declaration on the Achievement of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World,

*Recognizing* the need to achieve a world without nuclear weapons,

*Emphasizing*, in this regard, the fundamental role of the agreement on the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly of 30 June 1978,<sup>182</sup> in which it is stated, inter alia, that “effective measures of nuclear disarmament and the prevention of nuclear war have the highest priority”,

*Emphasizing also* the crucial role of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons<sup>183</sup> in achieving nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, and recalling in particular the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament, in accordance with commitments made under article VI of the Treaty, agreed to at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and reaffirmed by the 2010 Review Conference,

*Bearing in mind* the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons, issued on 8 July 1996,<sup>184</sup> in which the Court concluded unanimously that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

*Acknowledging* the significant contribution made towards realizing the objectives of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, through the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, although they are not an end in themselves, and reaffirming the political decision of 115 States parties to the treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia to reject nuclear weapons,

*Noting* the adoption, with a vote, of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, on 7 July 2017 at the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination,<sup>185</sup>

*Recalling* the relevant principles and agreements of international humanitarian law and the laws of war, and noting the expression of deep concern by the 2010 Review Conference at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons,<sup>186</sup>

*Taking into account*, in this context, the Secretary-General’s disarmament agenda, *Securing Our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament*, announced in May 2018,

1. *Recalls* the adoption of the Universal Declaration on the Achievement of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World, annexed to resolution 70/57;

2. *Invites* States, agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to disseminate the Declaration and to promote its implementation;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the efforts they have made and measures they have taken with respect to the implementation of the Declaration, and also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session a report on the implementation of the Declaration;

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<sup>182</sup> Resolution S-10/2.

<sup>183</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

<sup>184</sup> A/51/218, annex.

<sup>185</sup> A/CONF.229/2017/8.

<sup>186</sup> See 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, *Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*.

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-sixth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Universal Declaration on the Achievement of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World”.

### RESOLUTION 73/58

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101)<sup>187</sup>

#### 73/58. Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 65/49 of 8 December 2010, 67/31 of 3 December 2012, 69/36 of 2 December 2014 and 71/65 of 5 December 2016,

*Convinced* that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones contributes to the achievement of general and complete disarmament, and emphasizing the importance of internationally recognized treaties on the establishment of such zones in different regions of the world in the strengthening of the non-proliferation regime,

*Considering* that the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region,<sup>188</sup> constitutes an important step towards strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and ensuring regional and international peace and security,

*Considering also* that the Treaty is an effective contribution to combating international terrorism and preventing nuclear materials and technologies from falling into the hands of non-State actors, primarily terrorists,

*Reaffirming* the universally recognized role of the United Nations in the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

*Emphasizing* the role of the Treaty in promoting cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and in the environmental rehabilitation of territories affected by radioactive contamination, and the importance of stepping up efforts to ensure the safe and reliable storage of radioactive waste in the Central Asian States,

*Recognizing* the importance of the Treaty, and emphasizing its significance in the attainment of peace and security,

1. *Welcomes* the entry into force on 21 March 2009 of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia;

2. *Also welcomes* the signing of the Protocol to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia on 6 May 2014 by nuclear-weapon States and the ratification of this instrument by four of them, and calls for early completion of the ratification process;

3. *Further welcomes* the submission at the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of two working papers, on the Treaty and on the environmental consequences of uranium mining;

4. *Welcomes* the convening of consultative meetings of States parties to the Treaty, on 15 October 2009 in Ashgabat, 15 March 2011 in Tashkent, 12 June 2012 in Astana, 27 June 2013 in Astana, 25 July 2014 in Almaty, Kazakhstan, and 27 February 2015 in Bishkek, which identified joint activities by the Central Asian States to ensure

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<sup>187</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Angola, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Congo, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uzbekistan.

<sup>188</sup> Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

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the fulfilment of the obligations set out in the Treaty and to develop cooperation on disarmament issues with international bodies, as well as the adoption of an action plan of the States parties to the Treaty to strengthen nuclear security, prevent the proliferation of nuclear materials and counter nuclear terrorism in Central Asia;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia”.

### RESOLUTION 73/59

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101)<sup>189</sup>

#### **73/59. United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 55/33 E of 20 November 2000, 57/60 of 22 November 2002, 59/93 of 3 December 2004, 61/73 of 6 December 2006, 63/70 of 2 December 2008, 65/77 of 8 December 2010, 67/47 of 3 December 2012, 69/65 of 2 December 2014 and 71/57 of 5 December 2016,

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General on disarmament and non-proliferation education,<sup>190</sup> in which the Secretary-General reported on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education,<sup>191</sup> and recalling that 2018 marks the sixteenth anniversary of that report,

*Recognizing* the usefulness of the disarmament and non-proliferation education website “Disarmament education: resources for learning”, which is updated on a regular basis by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, including to provide information in all its sections, such as presentations, interviews in the *Disarmament Today* series of podcasts, which include the experiences of the hibakusha, the atomic bomb survivors, films and publications on disarmament issues, and encouraging the use of new communications technologies and social media for the promotion of disarmament and non-proliferation education,

*Emphasizing* that the Secretary-General concludes in his report that efforts need to be continued to implement the recommendations of the study and follow the good examples of how they are being implemented to stimulate even further long-term results,

*Desirous* of stressing the urgency of promoting concerted international efforts at disarmament and non-proliferation, in particular in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, with a view to strengthening international security and enhancing sustainable development,

*Conscious* of the need to combat the negative effects of cultures of violence and complacency in the face of current dangers in this field through long-term programmes of education and training,

*Remaining convinced* that the need for disarmament and non-proliferation education, particularly among youth, has never been greater, not only on the subject of weapons of mass destruction but also in the field of small arms and light weapons, terrorism and other challenges to international security and the process of disarmament, as well as on the relevance of implementing the recommendations contained in the United Nations study,

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<sup>189</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

<sup>190</sup> A/73/119.

<sup>191</sup> A/57/124.

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*Recognizing* the importance of the participation of civil society, including academic and non-governmental organizations, which plays an active role in the promotion of disarmament and non-proliferation education,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, civil society and academic and non-governmental organizations, which, within their purview, implemented the recommendations made in the United Nations study,<sup>191</sup> as discussed in the report of the Secretary-General reviewing the implementation of the recommendations,<sup>190</sup> and encourages them once again to continue to apply those recommendations and report to the Secretary-General on steps taken to implement them;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report reviewing the results of the implementation of the recommendations and possible new opportunities for promoting disarmament and non-proliferation education, and to submit it to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his disarmament agenda, *Securing Our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament*, and notes the proposed actions therein to further advance disarmament and non-proliferation education;

4. *Reiterates* the request to the Secretary-General to utilize electronic means to the fullest extent possible in the dissemination, in as many official languages as feasible, of information related to his report and any other information that the Office for Disarmament Affairs gathers on an ongoing basis with regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations study;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to maintain and update the website “Disarmament education: resources for learning”, including the *Disarmament Today* series of podcasts, as an efficient and effective tool to promote disarmament and non-proliferation education;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Disarmament and non-proliferation education”.

### RESOLUTION 73/60

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>192</sup> by a recorded vote of 175 to 5, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Comoros, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Israel, Lithuania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Republic of Korea

<sup>192</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Ecuador, Eswatini, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Iceland, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Republic of Moldova, Samoa, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and Zambia.



### 73/60. Decreasing the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 62/36 of 5 December 2007, 63/41 of 2 December 2008, 65/71 of 8 December 2010, 67/46 of 3 December 2012, 69/42 of 2 December 2014 and 71/53 of 5 December 2016,

*Recalling also* that the maintenance of nuclear weapons on high alert was a feature of cold war nuclear postures, and welcoming the increased confidence and transparency since the cessation of the cold war, while noting with concern the recent deterioration in the international security climate,

*Concerned* that several thousand nuclear weapons remain on high alert, ready to be launched within minutes,

*Noting* the continuing engagement in multilateral disarmament forums in support of further reductions to the operational status of nuclear weapons systems,

*Recognizing* that the maintenance of nuclear weapons systems at a high level of readiness increases the risk of the unintentional or accidental use of such weapons, which would have catastrophic humanitarian consequences,

*Recognizing also* that reductions in deployments and the lowering of operational status contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security, as well as to the process of nuclear disarmament, through the enhancement of confidence-building and transparency measures and a diminishing role for nuclear weapons in security policies,

*Welcoming* the steps taken by some States in support of nuclear disarmament, including de-targeting initiatives, increasing the amount of preparation time required for deployment and other measures to diminish further the possibility of nuclear launches resulting from accidents, unauthorized actions or misperceptions,

*Recalling* the adoption by consensus of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions by the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>193</sup> including the commitments of the nuclear-weapon States to promptly engage with a view to, inter alia, considering the legitimate interest of non-nuclear-weapon States in further reducing the operational status of nuclear weapons systems in ways that promote international stability and security,

*Encouraging*, in this regard, continued dialogue among the nuclear-weapon States to advance their nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament commitments under the action plan of the 2010 Review Conference,<sup>193</sup> and acknowledging the potential of this process for leading to deeper engagement on nuclear disarmament and greater mutual confidence,

*Taking note* of the references to operational readiness in reports of the nuclear-weapon States during the last review cycle of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

*Welcoming* all opportunities to address the further reduction of the operational status of nuclear weapons systems as a step leading to nuclear disarmament,

1. *Calls for* practical and concrete steps to be taken, unilaterally, bilaterally or multilaterally, to decrease the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems, with a view to ensuring that all nuclear weapons are removed from high alert status;
2. *Looks forward* to the issue of the lowering of the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems being addressed further during the current review cycle of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;
3. *Urges* States to update the General Assembly on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;
4. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

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<sup>193</sup> See 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I.

RESOLUTION 73/61

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>194</sup> by a recorded vote of 169 to none, with 16 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Palau, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America, Viet Nam

**73/61. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 54/54 B of 1 December 1999, 55/33 V of 20 November 2000, 56/24 M of 29 November 2001, 57/74 of 22 November 2002, 58/53 of 8 December 2003, 59/84 of 3 December 2004, 60/80 of 8 December 2005, 61/84 of 6 December 2006, 62/41 of 5 December 2007, 63/42 of 2 December 2008, 64/56 of 2 December 2009, 65/48 of 8 December 2010, 66/29 of 2 December 2011, 67/32 of 3 December 2012, 68/30 of 5 December 2013, 69/34 of 2 December 2014, 70/55 of 7 December 2015, 71/34 of 5 December 2016 and 72/53 of 4 December 2017,

*Reaffirming its determination* to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, which kill or injure thousands of people – women, girls, boys and men – every year, and which place people living in affected areas at risk and hinder the development of their communities,

*Believing it necessary* to do the utmost to contribute in an efficient and coordinated manner to facing the challenge of removing anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world and to assure their destruction,

*Wishing* to do the utmost to ensure assistance for the care and rehabilitation, including the social and economic reintegration, of mine victims,

*Noting with satisfaction* the work undertaken to implement the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction<sup>195</sup> and the substantial progress made towards addressing the global anti-personnel landmine problem,

*Recalling* the first to sixteenth meetings of the States parties to the Convention, held in Maputo (1999), Geneva (2000), Managua (2001), Geneva (2002), Bangkok (2003), Zagreb (2005), Geneva (2006), the Dead Sea (2007), Geneva (2008 and 2010), Phnom Penh (2011), Geneva (2012, 2013 and 2015), Santiago (2016) and Vienna (2017), and the First, Second and Third Review Conferences of the States Parties to the Convention, held in Nairobi (2004), Cartagena, Colombia (2009), and Maputo (2014),

<sup>194</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Austria and Norway.

<sup>195</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2056, No. 35597.

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*Recalling also* that, at the Third Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, the international community reviewed the implementation of the Convention and the States parties adopted a declaration and an action plan for the period 2014–2019 to support enhanced implementation and promotion of the Convention,

*Underlining* the importance of cooperation and assistance in the implementation of the Convention, including through the so-called individualized approach, which offers mine-affected countries a platform for presenting their challenges,

*Stressing* the need to take into account gender aspects in mine action,

*Noting with satisfaction* that 164 States have ratified or acceded to the Convention and have formally accepted the obligations of the Convention,

*Emphasizing* the desirability of attracting the adherence of all States to the Convention, and determined to work strenuously towards the promotion of its universalization and norms,

*Noting with regret* that anti-personnel mines continue to be used in some conflicts around the world, causing human suffering and impeding post-conflict development,

1. *Invites* all States that have not signed the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction<sup>195</sup> to accede to it without delay;

2. *Urges* the one remaining State that has signed but has not ratified the Convention to ratify it without delay;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the full and effective implementation of and compliance with the Convention, including through the continued implementation of the action plan for the period 2014–2019;

4. *Expresses strong concern* regarding the use of anti-personnel mines in various parts of the world, including use highlighted in recent allegations, reports and documented evidence;

5. *Urges* all States parties to provide the Secretary-General with complete and timely information as required under article 7 of the Convention in order to promote transparency and compliance with the Convention;

6. *Invites* all States that have not ratified the Convention or acceded to it to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to make global mine action efforts more effective;

7. *Renews its call upon* all States and other relevant parties to work together to promote, support and advance the care, rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of mine victims, mine risk education programmes and the removal and destruction of anti-personnel mines placed or stockpiled throughout the world;

8. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Convention through bilateral, subregional, regional and multilateral contacts, outreach, seminars and other means;

9. *Invites and encourages* all interested States, the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to attend the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention, to be held in Geneva from 26 to 30 November 2018, and to participate in the future programme of meetings of the States parties to the Convention;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 12, paragraph 1, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the Fourth Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention and, on behalf of the States parties and in accordance with article 12, paragraph 3, of the Convention, to invite States not parties to the Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations, to attend the Fourth Review Conference as observers;

11. *Calls upon* States parties and participating States to address issues arising from outstanding dues and from recently implemented United Nations financial and accounting practices, and to proceed promptly with the payment of their share of the estimated costs;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction”.

RESOLUTION 73/62

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>196</sup> by a recorded vote of 162 to 4, with 23 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

*Against:* China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic

*Abstaining:* Algeria, Austria, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, France, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, South Africa, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

**73/62. United action with renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming its commitment* towards a peaceful and secure world free of nuclear weapons,

*Recalling* its resolution 72/50 of 4 December 2017,

*Reaffirming* the crucial importance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons<sup>197</sup> as the cornerstone of the international nuclear non-proliferation regime and an essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy,

*Reaffirming also* its determination to further strengthen the universality of the regime of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and recalling that nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy are mutually reinforcing and are essential for strengthening the Treaty regime,

*Stressing* the essential role of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, 2018 being the fiftieth anniversary of its opening for signature, in the maintenance of international peace, security and stability, as well as its centrality to the rules-based international order, and recalling the achievements and the significance of the Treaty as the cornerstone of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime, which has contributed to the achievement of major reductions in the nuclear arsenals of nuclear-weapon States,

*Stressing also* the importance of the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to be held in 2020, on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Treaty, and of its review cycle towards the 2020 Review Conference,

<sup>196</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Comoros, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Montenegro, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu and Zambia.

<sup>197</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

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*Reaffirming* that the enhancement of international peace and security and the promotion of nuclear disarmament are mutually reinforcing and that it is in the common interest of all States to improve the international security environment and pursue a world free of nuclear weapons in line with article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

*Emphasizing* the crucial importance of rebuilding trust and enhancing cooperation among all States in order to make substantive progress in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, bearing in mind there are various approaches towards the realization of a world free of nuclear weapons,

*Mindful*, in this regard, that civility in discourse and respect for divergent views contribute to facilitating a meaningful and realistic dialogue, which enables the international community to reduce nuclear dangers and move forward towards a world free of nuclear weapons,

*Recognizing* the importance of ensuring the equitable representation and participation of both women and men in disarmament discussions to enable a truly comprehensive approach to nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament,

*Expressing grave concern* over the recent developments in regional security situations and the growing dangers posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, and by related proliferation networks,

*Noting* that the ultimate objective of the efforts of States in the disarmament process is general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

*Reaffirming* the commitment to achieving the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including the dismantlement of its nuclear weapons, ballistic missiles and related nuclear and ballistic missile programmes, and the cessation of all related activities, in accordance with Security Council resolutions,

*Welcoming* the inter-Korean summits held on 27 April, 26 May and 18 to 20 September 2018 and the meeting between the President of the United States of America and the Chairman of the Workers' Party of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of 12 June 2018 as a positive step toward the final, fully verified denuclearization of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

*Recalling*, in this context, that the repeated unlawful nuclear tests and frequent missile launches using United Nations-proscribed ballistic missile technology by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea pose unprecedented, grave and imminent threats to the peace and security of the region and the world, present grave challenges to the regime centred on the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and constitute clear and repeated violations of the relevant Security Council resolutions, and reiterating the resolute opposition of the international community to the possession of nuclear weapons by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

*Recognizing* that the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolution [2397 \(2017\)](#) of 22 December 2017, express the Council's firm opposition to the unlawful nuclear and missile programmes of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in violation of the relevant Council resolutions and the Council's determination to take further significant measures in the event of a further nuclear test or ballistic missile launch by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

*Reaffirming* that further consolidation of the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation, is, inter alia, essential to international peace and security,

*Stressing* the importance of the decisions and the resolution on the Middle East of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons<sup>198</sup> and the Final Documents of the 2000<sup>199</sup> and 2010<sup>200</sup> Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and reaffirming its support for the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons

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<sup>198</sup> 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)/Corr.2), annex.

<sup>199</sup> 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II), NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Part III) and NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Part IV)).

<sup>200</sup> 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I), NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. II) and NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. III)).

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and all other weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at by the States of the region and in accordance with the 1995 resolution on the Middle East, and for the resumption of dialogue towards this end involving the States concerned,

*Expressing deep concern* at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons use, and reaffirming the need for all States to comply at all times with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law, while convinced that every effort should be made to avoid the use of nuclear weapons,

*Recognizing* that the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that would result from the use of nuclear weapons should be fully understood by all, and noting in this regard that efforts should be made to increase such understanding,

*Welcoming* the visits of political leaders to Hiroshima and Nagasaki, in particular the recent visit to Nagasaki by the Secretary-General of the United Nations,

*Recalling* that nuclear and radiological terrorism remains a pressing and evolving challenge to the international community, and reaffirming the central role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in nuclear security,

1. *Renews* the determination of all States to take united action towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons through the easing of international tension and the strengthening of trust between States as envisioned in the preamble to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons<sup>197</sup> in order to facilitate disarmament and through strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime;

2. *Reaffirms*, in this regard, the unequivocal undertaking of the nuclear-weapon States to fully implement the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in all its aspects, including article VI, towards the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, recalling the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;<sup>199</sup>

3. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to comply with their obligations under all the articles of the Treaty and to implement, with due consideration to developments in global security, steps agreed to in the Final Documents of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons<sup>198</sup> and the 2000 and 2010<sup>200</sup> Review Conferences;

4. *Encourages* all States to exert their utmost efforts towards the success of the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, welcoming the successful convening of the first and second sessions of the Preparatory Committee for the Review Conference, which were held, respectively, in Vienna in May 2017 and in Geneva in April and May 2018;

5. *Calls upon* all States not parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to accede as non-nuclear-weapon States to the Treaty promptly and without any conditions to achieve its universality and, pending their accession to the Treaty, to adhere to its terms and to take practical steps in support of the Treaty;

6. *Encourages* all States to further engage in meaningful dialogue that facilitates practical, concrete and effective measures on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, and calls for efforts to foster a dialogue through interactive discussion to improve understanding and develop measures that enable States to address the security environment and improve confidence and trust among all States;

7. *Emphasizes* that deep concerns about the humanitarian consequences of the use of nuclear weapons continue to be a key factor that underpins efforts by all States towards a world free of nuclear weapons;

8. *Calls upon* all States to apply the principles of irreversibility, verifiability and transparency in the process of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

9. *Also calls upon* all States to take further practical steps and effective measures towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons, based on the principle of undiminished and increased security for all;

10. *Stresses* that increased transparency will build confidence and trust at the regional and international levels and contribute to establishing a common ground for dialogue and negotiation, which could allow further reductions in nuclear weapons towards their total elimination;

11. *Encourages* the nuclear-weapon States to build upon and expand their efforts to enhance transparency and to increase mutual confidence, including, inter alia, by providing more frequent and further detailed reporting on nuclear weapons and delivery systems dismantled and reduced as part of nuclear disarmament efforts throughout the review process of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons towards the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty;



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12. *Calls upon* all States to make utmost efforts to ease international tension, strengthen trust between States and improve the international security environment with a view to facilitating further nuclear reductions, placing special emphasis, among others, on the following actions:

(a) Continued implementation of the Treaty on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (New START Treaty), welcoming the fact that 5 February 2018 marked the date on which the central limits on strategic nuclear arsenals under the Treaty took effect, and further welcoming the respective announcements of the Russian Federation and the United States of America that each had by that date met those central limits;

(b) Continuing dialogues between the Russian Federation and the United States of America that could enable the commencement of negotiations to achieve greater reductions in their stockpiles of nuclear weapons;

(c) Efforts by all States possessing nuclear weapons to reduce and ultimately eliminate all types of nuclear weapons, deployed and non-deployed, including through unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures;

(d) Regular discussions among the nuclear-weapon States and other States, through which the international security environment could be improved with a view to facilitating further nuclear disarmament measures;

(e) Continuous review by the States concerned of their military and security concepts, doctrines and policies with a view to reducing further the role and significance of nuclear weapons therein, taking into account the security environment;

13. *Urges* all States possessing nuclear weapons to continue to undertake all efforts necessary to comprehensively address the risks of unintended nuclear detonations;

14. *Recognizes* the legitimate interest of non-nuclear-weapon States that are party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and in compliance with their nuclear non-proliferation obligations in receiving unequivocal and legally binding security assurances from nuclear-weapon States which could strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime;

15. *Recalls* Security Council resolution [984 \(1995\)](#) of 11 April 1995, noting the unilateral statements by each of the nuclear-weapon States, and calls upon all nuclear-weapon States to fully respect their commitments with regard to security assurances;

16. *Encourages* the establishment of further nuclear-weapon-free zones, where appropriate, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at by the States of the region concerned and in accordance with the 1999 guidelines of the Disarmament Commission,<sup>201</sup> and recognizes that, by signing and ratifying relevant protocols that contain negative security assurances, nuclear-weapon States would undertake individual legally binding commitments with respect to the status of such zones and not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against States that are party to such treaties;

17. *Also encourages* further efforts towards the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at by the States of the region and in accordance with the 1995 resolution on the Middle East,<sup>198</sup> and the resumption of dialogue towards that end involving the States concerned;

18. *Acknowledges* the widespread call for the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,<sup>202</sup> while recalling that all States, in particular the eight remaining States in annex 2 thereof, have been urged to take individual initiatives to sign and ratify that Treaty without waiting for any other States to do so, and urges all States to maintain all existing moratoria on nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions and declare their political will to do so, so long as the Treaty has not entered into force;

19. *Commends* the accomplishments of and continued support by States for the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization since the opening for signature of the Treaty, in particular the significant progress made in the establishment of the International Monitoring System and the International Data Centre;

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<sup>201</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/54/42)*.

<sup>202</sup> See resolution [50/245](#) and [A/50/1027](#).

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20. *Urges* all States concerned to immediately commence negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and its early conclusion on the basis of document [CD/1299](#) of 24 March 1995 and the mandate contained therein, taking into consideration the report of the Group of Government Experts requested in paragraph 3 of resolution [67/53](#) of 3 December 2012,<sup>203</sup> the report of the high-level fissile material cut-off treaty expert preparatory group requested in paragraph 2 of resolution [71/259](#) of 23 December 2016,<sup>204</sup> as well as the report of subsidiary body 2 of the Conference on Disarmament, adopted on 5 September 2018;<sup>205</sup>

21. *Urges* all States concerned to declare and maintain a moratorium on the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, pending the entry into force of the treaty;

22. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken towards the development of nuclear disarmament verification capabilities that can contribute to the pursuit of a world free of nuclear weapons, including the Group of Governmental Experts mandated pursuant to resolution [71/67](#) of 14 December 2016 and the International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification, and stresses in this regard the importance of cooperation between nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear-weapon States;

23. *While noting with appreciation* the decision of the Conference on Disarmament at its 2018 session on the establishment of the subsidiary bodies, calls upon the Conference on Disarmament to further intensify consultations and to explore possibilities for overcoming its ongoing deadlock of two decades by adopting and implementing a programme of work at the earliest possible date during its 2019 session;

24. *Encourages* all States to implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education,<sup>206</sup> in support of achieving a world free of nuclear weapons;

25. *Encourages* every effort to raise awareness of the realities of the use of nuclear weapons, including through, among others, visits by leaders, youth and others to and interactions with communities and people, including the hibakusha (those who have suffered the use of nuclear weapons) that pass on their experiences to the future generations;

26. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of all States for the full implementation of all relevant Security Council resolutions and the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to achieve complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization in accordance with relevant Security Council resolutions;

27. *Urges* the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to fulfil its commitment made at the inter-Korean summits held on 27 April, 26 May and 18 to 20 September 2018 and the meeting of 12 June 2018 between the President of the United States of America and the Chairman of the Workers' Party of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the final, fully verified denuclearization of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

28. *Condemns in the strongest terms* all nuclear tests and launches using ballistic missile technology and other activities in furtherance of the development of nuclear and ballistic missile technology by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which cannot have the status of a nuclear-weapon State in accordance with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and strongly urges the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to refrain from conducting any further nuclear tests as a step toward complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization, to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty without further delay and without waiting for any other States to do so and to abandon all ongoing nuclear activities immediately in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner, and calls upon the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to fully comply with all relevant Security Council resolutions, to implement the joint statement of the Six-Party Talks of 19 September 2005 and to return at an early date to full compliance with the Treaty, including that of the International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

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<sup>203</sup> [A/70/81](#).

<sup>204</sup> [A/73/159](#).

<sup>205</sup> [CD/2139](#).

<sup>206</sup> [A/57/124](#).

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29. *Calls upon* all States to redouble their efforts to prevent and curb the proliferation of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery and to fully respect and comply with any obligations undertaken to forswear nuclear weapons;

30. *Also calls upon* all States to establish and enforce effective domestic controls to prevent proliferation of nuclear weapons, and encourages cooperation among States and technical assistance to enhance international partnership and capacity-building in non-proliferation efforts;

31. *Stresses* the fundamental role of the International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and the importance of the universalization of the comprehensive safeguards agreements, and, while noting that it is the sovereign decision of any State to conclude an additional protocol, strongly encourages all States that have not done so to conclude and bring into force as soon as possible an additional protocol based on the Model Additional Protocol to the Agreement(s) between States and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards, approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 15 May 1997;

32. *Calls upon* all States to fully implement relevant Security Council resolutions, including Council resolutions [1540 \(2004\)](#) of 28 April 2004 and [2325 \(2016\)](#) of 15 December 2016, based on the outcome of the comprehensive review of the status of implementation of Council resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#);

33. *Encourages* all States to attach more importance to, and enhance the security of, nuclear and other radiological materials, and to further strengthen the global nuclear security architecture;

34. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “United action with renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons”.

### RESOLUTION 73/63

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/510](#) and [A/73/510/Corr.1](#), para. 101),<sup>207</sup> by a recorded vote of 185 to 1, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Democratic People's Republic of Korea

*Abstaining:* Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of)

<sup>207</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

### 73/63. Preventing and combating illicit brokering activities

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [69/62](#) of 2 December 2014 and [71/36](#) of 5 December 2016,

*Noting* the threat to international peace and security posed by illicit brokering activities circumventing the international arms control and non-proliferation framework,

*Concerned* that, if proper measures are not taken, the illicit brokering of arms in all its aspects will adversely affect the maintenance of international peace and security, and prolong conflicts, and could be an obstacle to sustainable economic and social development and result in illicit transfers of conventional arms and the acquisition of weapons of mass destruction by non-State actors,

*Recognizing* the need for Member States to prevent and combat illicit brokering activities, which covers not only conventional arms but also materials, equipment and technology that could contribute to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

*Reaffirming* that efforts to prevent and combat illicit brokering activities should not hamper the legitimate arms trade and international cooperation with respect to materials, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes,

*Recalling* Security Council resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) of 28 April 2004, in particular paragraph 3, in which the Council determined that all States shall develop and maintain appropriate effective border controls and law enforcement efforts to detect, deter, prevent and combat, including through international cooperation when necessary, illicit trafficking in and brokering of materials related to nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery, in accordance with their national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with international law, and taking note of the comprehensive review of the status of implementation of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) conducted in 2016,

*Noting* international efforts to prevent and combat illicit arms brokering, in particular in small arms and light weapons, as demonstrated by the adoption in 2001 of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,<sup>208</sup> and the entry into force in 2005 of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>209</sup>

*Welcoming* efforts to implement the Programme of Action and the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons,<sup>210</sup> including the holding of mandated meetings to review their implementation and the submission by Member States of national reports,

*Recognizing* the importance of States parties to the Arms Trade Treaty<sup>211</sup> taking measures, pursuant to their national laws, to regulate brokering taking place under their jurisdiction, in accordance with article 10 of the Treaty,

*Taking note* of Security Council resolutions [2117 \(2013\)](#) of 26 September 2013 and [2220 \(2015\)](#) of 22 May 2015 on small arms and light weapons, in which the Council encouraged cooperation and information-sharing on suspect brokering activities to address the illicit transfer, destabilizing accumulation and misuse of small arms and light weapons,

*Taking note also* of the report issued on 30 August 2007 by the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to General Assembly resolution [60/81](#) of 8 December 2005 to consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons<sup>212</sup> as an international initiative within the framework of the United Nations,

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<sup>208</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects*, New York, 9–20 July 2001 ([A/CONF.192/15](#)), chap. IV, para. 24.

<sup>209</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2326, No. 39574.

<sup>210</sup> See decision 60/519 and [A/60/88](#) and [A/60/88/Corr.2](#), annex.

<sup>211</sup> See resolution [67/234 B](#).

<sup>212</sup> [A/62/163](#) and [A/62/163/Corr.1](#).

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*Underlining* the inherent right of Member States to determine the specific scope and content of domestic regulations in accordance with their legislative frameworks and export control systems, consistent with international law,

*Welcoming* the efforts made by Member States to implement laws and/or administrative measures to regulate arms brokering within their legal systems,

*Encouraging* cooperation among Member States to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in nuclear materials, and recognizing in this regard existing efforts at all levels, consistent with international law,

*Welcoming* the technical guidance and capacity-building assistance provided by the International Atomic Energy Agency to enhance nuclear security globally,

*Encouraging* Member States in a position to do so to share their experience and practices in relation to the control of illicit brokering and to further enhance international cooperation to this end,

*Noting with satisfaction* the awareness-raising activities of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, which contribute to efforts aimed at preventing and combating illicit brokering activities,

*Acknowledging* the constructive role that civil society can play in raising awareness and providing practical expertise on the prevention of illicit brokering activities,

1. *Underlines* the commitment of Member States to address the threat posed by illicit brokering activities;
2. *Encourages* Member States to fully implement relevant international treaties, instruments and resolutions to prevent and combat illicit brokering activities, and implement, where appropriate, the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts;<sup>212</sup>
3. *Calls upon* Member States to establish appropriate national laws and/or measures to prevent and combat the illicit brokering of conventional arms and materials, equipment and technology that could contribute to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, in a manner consistent with international law;
4. *Acknowledges* that national efforts to prevent and combat illicit brokering activities can be reinforced by such efforts at the regional and subregional levels;
5. *Emphasizes* the importance of international cooperation and assistance, capacity-building and information-sharing in preventing and combating illicit brokering activities, and encourages Member States to take such measures as appropriate and in a manner consistent with international law;
6. *Encourages* Member States to draw, where appropriate, on the relevant expertise of civil society in developing effective measures to prevent and combat illicit brokering activities.

### RESOLUTION 73/64

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>213</sup> by a recorded vote of 138 to 32, with 17 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal,

<sup>213</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Palau, Peru, Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.



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New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eswatini, Finland, Georgia, Iceland, India, Japan, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

### 73/64. Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 49/75 K of 15 December 1994, 51/45 M of 10 December 1996, 52/38 O of 9 December 1997, 53/77 W of 4 December 1998, 54/54 Q of 1 December 1999, 55/33 X of 20 November 2000, 56/24 S of 29 November 2001, 57/85 of 22 November 2002, 58/46 of 8 December 2003, 59/83 of 3 December 2004, 60/76 of 8 December 2005, 61/83 of 6 December 2006, 62/39 of 5 December 2007, 63/49 of 2 December 2008, 64/55 of 2 December 2009, 65/76 of 8 December 2010, 66/46 of 2 December 2011, 67/33 of 3 December 2012, 68/42 of 5 December 2013, 69/43 of 2 December 2014, 70/56 of 7 December 2015, 71/58 of 5 December 2016 and 72/58 of 4 December 2017,

*Convinced* that the continuing existence of nuclear weapons poses a threat to humanity and all life on Earth, and recognizing that the only defence against a nuclear catastrophe is the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the certainty that they will never be produced again,

*Reaffirming* the commitment of the international community to the realization of the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world through the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Mindful* of the solemn obligations of States parties, in particular the obligations undertaken in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>214</sup> to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament,

*Recalling* the principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>215</sup> the unequivocal commitment of nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, agreed at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>216</sup> and the action points agreed at the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as part of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions on nuclear disarmament,<sup>217</sup>

*Sharing the deep concern* at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and in this context reaffirming the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law,

<sup>214</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

<sup>215</sup> 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, *Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)/Corr.2), annex, decision 2.

<sup>216</sup> See 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, *Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15.

<sup>217</sup> See 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, *Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I.



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*Calling upon* all nuclear-weapon States to undertake concrete disarmament efforts, and stressing that all States need to make special efforts to achieve and maintain a world without nuclear weapons,

*Recalling* the five-point proposal for nuclear disarmament of the Secretary-General, in which he proposes, inter alia, the consideration of negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention or agreement on a framework of separate mutually reinforcing instruments, backed by a strong system of verification,

*Noting* continued efforts towards realizing nuclear disarmament, including through the Secretary-General's disarmament agenda, *Securing Our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament*,

*Recalling* the adoption of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in its resolution [50/245](#) of 10 September 1996, and expressing its satisfaction at the increasing number of States that have signed and ratified the Treaty,

*Recognizing with satisfaction* that the Antarctic Treaty,<sup>218</sup> the treaties of Tlatelolco,<sup>219</sup> Rarotonga,<sup>220</sup> Bangkok<sup>221</sup> and Pelindaba<sup>222</sup> and the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, as well as Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status, are gradually freeing the entire southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons,

*Recognizing* the need for a multilaterally negotiated and legally binding instrument to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Reaffirming* the central role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

*Emphasizing* the need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time,

*Stressing* the urgent need for the nuclear-weapon States to accelerate concrete progress on the 13 practical steps to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons leading to nuclear disarmament, contained in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference,

*Recalling* the Model Nuclear Weapons Convention submitted to the Secretary-General by Costa Rica and Malaysia in 2007 and circulated by the Secretary-General,<sup>223</sup>

*Welcoming* the adoption on 7 July 2017 of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>224</sup> which has contributed to achieving the objective of a legally binding prohibition of the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, threat or use of nuclear weapons and their destruction under effective international control,

*Recalling* the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons, issued on 8 July 1996,<sup>225</sup>

1. *Underlines once again* the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control;

2. *Calls once again upon* all States to immediately engage in multilateral negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control, including under the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons;<sup>224</sup>

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<sup>218</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

<sup>219</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

<sup>220</sup> *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

<sup>221</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

<sup>222</sup> [A/50/426](#), annex.

<sup>223</sup> [A/62/650](#), annex.

<sup>224</sup> [A/CONF.229/2017/8](#).

<sup>225</sup> [A/51/218](#), annex.

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3. *Requests* all States to inform the Secretary-General of the efforts and measures which they have taken with respect to the implementation of the present resolution and nuclear disarmament, and requests the Secretary-General to apprise the General Assembly of that information at its seventy-fourth session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons”.

### RESOLUTION 73/65

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>226</sup> by a recorded vote of 182 to 1, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Pakistan

*Abstaining:* Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Syrian Arab Republic

#### 73/65. Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 48/75 L of 16 December 1993, 53/77 I of 4 December 1998, 55/33 Y of 20 November 2000, 56/24 J of 29 November 2001, 57/80 of 22 November 2002, 58/57 of 8 December 2003, 59/81 of 3 December 2004, 64/29 of 2 December 2009, 65/65 of 8 December 2010, 66/44 of 2 December 2011 and 67/53 of 3 December 2012, its decisions 68/518 of 5 December 2013 and 69/516 of 2 December 2014, its resolutions 70/39 of 7 December 2015 and 71/259 of 23 December 2016, as well as its decision 72/513 of 4 December 2017, on the subject of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices,

*Recalling also* document CD/1299 of 24 March 1995, which indicated that all members of the Conference on Disarmament had agreed that the mandate to negotiate a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices would not preclude any delegation from raising for consideration, in negotiations, any issue noted therein,

*Reaffirming* the importance of ensuring continued international commitment and high-level attention to making practical progress on achieving a world without nuclear weapons and on non-proliferation in all its aspects,

*Mindful* of the continuing importance and relevance of the Conference on Disarmament, and recalling the past achievements of that body in successfully negotiating non-proliferation and disarmament agreements,

<sup>226</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Canada, Germany and Netherlands.

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*Taking into account* the adoption by consensus of the report of subsidiary body 2 of the Conference on Disarmament on prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters, with a general focus on a ban of the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons and other explosive devices,<sup>227</sup>

*Looking forward* to the Conference again fulfilling its mandate as the world's single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

*Convinced* that a non-discriminatory, multilateral and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices would represent a significant practical contribution to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation efforts,

*Recognizing* the essential role of fissile material in the manufacture of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and the long-standing efforts of the international community to negotiate a treaty that would ban its production for such purposes,

*Recognizing also* that a future treaty should not prohibit the production of fissile material for non-proscribed military purposes or civilian use, consistent with the obligations of States parties, or interfere in any other way with a State's right to peaceful uses of nuclear energy,

*Recalling* action 15 of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions agreed by consensus at the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons<sup>228</sup> that, inter alia, the Conference on Disarmament should, within the context of an agreed, comprehensive and balanced programme of work, immediately begin negotiation of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices in accordance with the report of the Special Coordinator of 1995 (CD/1299) and the mandate contained therein,

*Underlining* that the consensus report of the Group of Governmental Experts, mandated in resolution 67/53, as contained in document A/70/81, and the deliberations which underpin it, serve as a valuable reference for States and should be a useful resource for negotiators of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices,

*Noting with appreciation* the work accomplished in 2017 and 2018 by the high-level fissile material cut-off treaty expert preparatory group convened by the Secretary General following resolution 71/259, on the basis of equitable geographic distribution, to consider and make recommendations on substantial elements of a future non-discriminatory, multilateral and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, on the basis of document CD/1299 and the mandate contained therein,

*Welcoming* the participation of Member States in informal consultative meetings, organized by the Chair of the high-level fissile material cut-off treaty expert preparatory group, which were open-ended so that all Member States could engage in interactive discussions and share their views on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices,

*Convinced* that the report of the high-level fissile material cut-off treaty expert preparatory group, mandated in resolution 71/259, as contained in document A/73/159, read in conjunction with document A/70/81, should be taken into account by future negotiators in their deliberations,

*Recognizing* the importance of concerted efforts to ensure that both women and men can participate equally, fully and effectively in the negotiation process of a future treaty,

1. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to agree on and implement at its earliest opportunity a programme of work that includes the immediate commencement of negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of document CD/1299 and the mandate contained therein;

2. *Welcomes* the adoption by consensus of the report of the high-level fissile material cut-off treaty expert preparatory group, mandated in resolution 71/259, as contained in document A/73/159;

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<sup>227</sup> CD/2139.

<sup>228</sup> See 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions.

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3. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the high-level fissile material cut-off treaty expert preparatory group to the Conference on Disarmament prior to its 2019 session;

4. *Urges* Member States to give due consideration to the report of the high-level fissile material cut-off treaty expert preparatory group, in conjunction with document [A/70/81](#), including its call that further consideration be given to measures that might facilitate the commencement of treaty negotiations and enhance confidence, and calls upon the Conference on Disarmament to fully examine the report and consider further action as appropriate;

5. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to carry out further expert work to elaborate on all relevant aspects of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, including how the various approaches to verification of a treaty would work in practice, and to assess the resource implications associated with the use in a treaty of the various potential elements;

6. *Calls upon* future negotiators of a treaty to take into account the work of the high-level fissile material cut-off treaty expert preparatory group, in conjunction with the work of the Group of Governmental Experts, as appropriate in their deliberations;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices”.

### RESOLUTION 73/66

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/510](#) and [A/73/510/Corr.1](#), para. 101)<sup>229</sup>

#### **73/66. Preventing the acquisition by terrorists of radioactive sources**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [62/46](#) of 5 December 2007, [65/74](#) of 8 December 2010, [67/51](#) of 3 December 2012, [69/50](#) of 2 December 2014 and [71/66](#) of 5 December 2016,

*Recognizing* the essential contribution of radioactive sources to social and economic development, and the benefits drawn from their use for all States,

*Recognizing also* the determination of the international community to combat terrorism, as evident in relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions,

*Noting with satisfaction* the continued international efforts to strengthen further the security of radioactive sources worldwide,

*Mindful* of the responsibilities of every Member State, in accordance with their national legal frameworks and international obligations, to maintain effective nuclear safety and security, asserting that responsibility for nuclear security within a State rests entirely with that State, and noting the important contribution of international cooperation in supporting the efforts of States to fulfil their responsibilities,

*Deeply concerned* by the threat of terrorism and the risk that terrorists may acquire, traffic in or use radioactive sources in radiological dispersion devices,

*Deeply concerned also* by the potential threat to human health and the environment that would result from the use of such devices by terrorists,

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<sup>229</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

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*Noting with concern* the occurrence of nuclear and radioactive materials that are outside of regulatory control or being trafficked,

*Recalling* the importance of international conventions aimed at preventing and suppressing such a risk, in particular the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, adopted on 13 April 2005,<sup>230</sup> and the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, adopted on 26 October 1979,<sup>231</sup> as well as its Amendment, adopted on 8 July 2005,<sup>232</sup> which entered into force on 8 May 2016,

*Noting* that actions of the international community to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and prevent access by non-State actors to weapons of mass destruction and related material, notably Security Council resolutions 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004, 1977 (2011) of 20 April 2011 and 2325 (2016) of 15 December 2016, constitute contributions to the prevention of acts of terrorism using such materials,

*Taking note* of resolutions GC(62)/RES/6 and GC(62)/RES/7, adopted on 20 September 2018 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its sixty-second regular session, which address measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety and measures to enhance nuclear security,

*Stressing* the importance of the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in promoting and reinforcing the safety and security of radioactive sources, in particular by establishing technical guidance and supporting States in the improvement of national legal and regulatory infrastructure, and in strengthening coordination and complementarities among various nuclear or radiological security activities,

*Noting* the organization by the International Atomic Energy Agency of the International Conference on Nuclear Security: Enhancing Global Efforts, held in Vienna from 1 to 5 July 2013, the International Conference on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources: Maintaining the Continuous Global Control of Sources throughout their Life Cycle, held in Abu Dhabi from 27 to 31 October 2013, and the International Conference on Nuclear Security: Commitments and Actions, held in Vienna from 5 to 9 December 2016, as well as the upcoming International Conference on the Security of Radioactive Material: The Way Forward for Prevention and Detection, to be held in Vienna from 3 to 7 December 2018,

*Noting also* the utility of the Incident and Trafficking Database as a voluntary mechanism for the international exchange of information on incidents and illicit trafficking of nuclear and other radioactive material, encouraging the International Atomic Energy Agency to further facilitate, including through designated points of contact, the timely exchange of information, including through secured electronic access to information contained in the Database, and encouraging also all States to join and participate actively in the Database programme in support of their national efforts to prevent, detect and respond to radioactive and nuclear materials that may have fallen out of regulatory control,

*Noting further* the importance of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management<sup>233</sup> with respect to its provisions on the safety of disused sealed sources,

*Highlighting* the importance of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, of its supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources and of its supplementary Guidance on the Management of Disused Radioactive Sources as valuable instruments for enhancing the safety and security of radioactive sources, noting that 137 States members of the International Atomic Energy Agency have made a political commitment to implement the provisions of the Code and 114 States have made a similar commitment to the supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources, while recognizing that they are not legally binding,

*Noting* that a number of States have not yet become parties to the pertinent international instruments,

*Taking note* of the Nuclear Security Plan for 2018–2021 of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and encouraging Member States to make voluntary contributions to the International Atomic Energy Agency Nuclear Security Fund,

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<sup>230</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2445, No. 44004.

<sup>231</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1456, No. 24631.

<sup>232</sup> See International Atomic Energy Agency, document GOV/INF/2005/10-GC(49)/INF/6, attachment.

<sup>233</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2153, No. 37605.



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*Welcoming* the fact that Member States have taken multilateral actions to address the security of radioactive sources, as reflected in General Assembly resolution 72/5 of 10 November 2017,

*Noting* the various international efforts and partnerships to enhance nuclear and radiological security, encouraging further efforts to secure radioactive sources, and noting also in this respect guidance and recommendations of the International Atomic Energy Agency with regard to safe and secure management of radioactive sources,

*Taking note* of the findings of the International Conference on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources of 2013, which, inter alia, call for further assessment of the merits of developing an international convention on the safety and security of radioactive sources so that Member States can make the best-informed decisions on the matter,

*Noting* that the Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism Prevention Unit of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) works with nations to strengthen capabilities to counter radioactive source smuggling and prevent terrorists from acquiring such materials, and that INTERPOL Operation Fail Safe promotes the sharing of sensitive law-enforcement information on known nuclear smugglers,

*Welcoming* the ongoing individual and collective efforts of Member States to take into account in their deliberations the dangers posed by the lack or insufficiency of control over radioactive sources, and recognizing the need for States to take more effective measures to strengthen those controls in accordance with their national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with international law,

*Mindful* of the urgent need to address, within the United Nations framework and through international cooperation, this rising concern for international security,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to support international efforts to prevent the acquisition and use by terrorists of radioactive sources and, if necessary, suppress such acts, in accordance with their national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with international law;

2. *Encourages* all Member States that have not yet done so to become party to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism<sup>230</sup> as soon as possible, in accordance with their legal and constitutional processes;

3. *Invites* Member States, in coordination with the International Atomic Energy Agency and in accordance with its statute, to consider the merits of conducting an evaluation of the existing international framework applicable to the security of radioactive sources and, if necessary, to explore possible options for its potential strengthening;

4. *Urges* Member States to take and strengthen national measures and capabilities, as appropriate, to prevent the acquisition and use by terrorists of radioactive sources as well as terrorist attacks on nuclear plants and facilities which would result in radioactive releases, and, if necessary, to suppress such acts, in particular by taking effective measures to account for, control, secure and physically protect such facilities, materials and sources in accordance with their national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with their international obligations;

5. *Encourages* Member States to enhance their national capacities with appropriate means of detection and related architecture or systems, including through international cooperation and assistance in conformity with international law and regulations, with a view to preventing, detecting and responding to illicit trafficking in radioactive sources;

6. *Invites* Member States, in particular those producing and distributing radioactive sources, to support and endorse the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency to enhance the safety and security of radioactive sources, as described in General Conference resolutions GC(62)/RES/6 and GC(62)/RES/7, and to enhance the security of radioactive sources, as described in the Nuclear Security Plan for 2018–2021;

7. *Urges* all States to work towards following the guidance contained in the non-legally binding International Atomic Energy Agency Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, including, as appropriate, the supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources and the supplementary Guidance on the Management of Disused Radioactive Sources, and encourages Member States to notify the Director General of the Agency of their intention to do so pursuant to General Conference resolutions GC(62)/RES/6 and GC(62)/RES/7;



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8. *Encourages* Member States to work with the International Atomic Energy Agency to enhance the non-legally binding international framework for the security of radioactive sources, especially on the safe and secure management of disused radioactive sources, in accordance with relevant resolutions of the Agency, in particular resolutions GC(62)/RES/6 and GC(62)/RES/7;

9. *Recognizes* the value of information exchange on national approaches to controlling radioactive sources, and takes note of the endorsement by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency of a proposal for a formalized process for a voluntary periodic exchange on information and lessons learned and for the evaluation of progress made by States towards implementing the provisions of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources;

10. *Welcomes* the endorsement of the Guidance on the Management of Disused Radioactive Sources by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency in its resolution GC(61)/RES/8 adopted on 21 September 2017 at its sixty-first session;

11. *Encourages* Member States to participate, on a voluntary basis, in the Incident and Trafficking Database programme of the International Atomic Energy Agency;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by Member States, including through international cooperation under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency, to search for, locate, recover and secure lost or orphaned radioactive sources within their State jurisdiction or territory, encourages continued efforts in this way, and also encourages cooperation among and between Member States and through relevant international and, where appropriate, regional organizations aimed at strengthening national capacities in this regard;

13. *Encourages* Member States, in accordance with their national laws, policies and priorities, to provide support for scientific research to develop technically and economically appropriate technologies with the capability to further improve the security of radioactive sources or reduce the risk of acquisition by terrorists and of malicious use of radioactive sources, including by, on a voluntary basis and when technically feasible and economically realistic, developing technologies that do not rely on high-activity radioactive sources and developing exchanges on alternative technologies, without unduly hindering the beneficial uses of radioactive sources;

14. *Invites* all Member States to participate, on a voluntary basis, in the annual meeting of the ad hoc working group of stakeholder States involved with alternative technologies to high-activity radioactive sources;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Preventing the acquisition by terrorists of radioactive sources”.

### RESOLUTION 73/67

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101)<sup>234</sup>

#### 73/67. Countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 70/46 of 7 December 2015, 71/72 of 5 December 2016 and 72/36 of 4 December 2017,

*Expressing grave concern* over the devastation caused by the increasing use of improvised explosive devices by illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients,<sup>235</sup> which has affected a large number of countries and has resulted in thousands of casualties, both civilian and military, and, in this regard, stressing the need for all actors to comply with applicable international law at all times,

<sup>234</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Armenia, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chad, Croatia, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United States of America and Yemen.

<sup>235</sup> See resolution 69/51, A/CONF.192/BMS/2014/2, A/71/187 and Security Council resolution 2370 (2017).

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*Expressing concern* over the increased use of and sophistication of the design and means of detonation of improvised explosive devices,

*Expressing profound concern* at the indiscriminate use and effects of improvised explosive devices and at the increasing humanitarian impact of such attacks on civilian populations worldwide, in particular through the perpetration of terrorist acts, and noting the need for a comprehensive approach in addressing this concern,

*Expressing concern* at the serious harm that such improvised explosive device attacks have caused to United Nations staff and peacekeepers, and to humanitarian workers, by threatening their lives, increasing the cost of their activities, limiting their freedom of movement and affecting their ability to effectively deliver on their mandates,

*Expressing concern also* about the negative impact of these attacks on socioeconomic development, infrastructure and freedom of movement, and on the security and stability of States, and thus underlining the need to address this issue in order to achieve relevant goals and targets under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>236</sup> in particular target 16.1 on significantly reducing all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere,

*Urging* Member States to ensure that any measures taken or means employed to implement the present resolution comply with international law, in particular the Charter of the United Nations, applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law,

*Recognizing* the importance of full involvement and equal opportunities for participation for both women and men in countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices,

*Underlining* the importance of addressing the threat of improvised explosive devices and their differential impacts on women, girls, boys and men,

*Recognizing* that the wide spectrum of materials that can be used for the manufacture of improvised explosive devices, including those sourced from the military and civilian industry, contributes to their diverse nature and their deployment methods, which thus requires an appropriate approach to the formulation of measures to counter them,

*Noting* that the impact of improvised explosive devices spans a wide array of policy areas and that, owing to the extent of the cross-cutting nature of the issue, a whole-of-government approach focusing on the capacity of Governments to effectively bring together several policy strands for comprehensive action is essential,

*Underlining* the important role that States can play in raising awareness among private sector and other entities about the possible theft, diversion and misuse of their products to make improvised explosive devices, with a view to enabling those entities to develop effective strategies to counter the threat of improvised explosive devices,<sup>237</sup> including to prevent the adverse impact of the diversion of materials and the potential loss of revenue and risk to reputation, either in a partnership with governmental authorities, or through business-to-business processes or activities,

*Noting* existing industry-led initiatives that seek to increase industry oversight and accountability along the supply chain for precursor components, and encouraging States to engage, as appropriate, with private sector industry actors in supporting such initiatives,

*Noting also* the contribution of good governance, the promotion of human rights, the rule of law, adherence to the principles of the Charter and sustained and inclusive socioeconomic growth, including through effective measures and mechanisms for persons belonging to vulnerable groups, as important elements in comprehensively addressing the issue of improvised explosive devices, in particular in post-conflict situations,

*Stressing* the paramount need to prevent illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients from, and identify the networks that support them in, obtaining, handling, financing, storing, using or seeking access to all types of explosives, whether military or civilian, as well as other military or civilian materials and components that can be used to manufacture improvised explosive devices, including detonators, detonating cords and chemical components, while at the same time avoiding any undue restrictions on the legitimate use of those materials,

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<sup>236</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>237</sup> See the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework (A/HRC/17/31, annex).

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*Recalling*, in this context, relevant resolutions on the prevention of the acquisition of weapons by terrorists, including improvised explosive device components, and their transfer to and between terrorists, associated groups and other illegal armed groups and criminals,<sup>238</sup>

*Recalling also* relevant resolutions on improvised explosive device threat mitigation, including those addressing the indiscriminate use of improvised explosive devices and the impact on peacekeeping operations, special political missions and humanitarian responses,<sup>239</sup>

*Stressing* the importance of effectively securing conventional ammunition stockpiles in order to mitigate the risk of their diversion to illicit use as materials for improvised explosive devices, and noting the voluntary, practical International Ammunition Technical Guidelines in this regard,

*Stressing also* the importance of engagement by all Member States in a comprehensive and coordinated community of action to counter the global threat posed by improvised explosive devices in the hands of illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, taking into account national capacities,

*Noting* that, at the global level, organizations across many sectors have expertise that can contribute to a useful set of measures for the mitigation of improvised explosive devices, and noting also the value of considered and coordinated efforts by various stakeholders, including intergovernmental and regional organizations and industry associations, with a view to investing effectively in coordination and information exchange,

*Noting also* the discussions on the issue of improvised explosive devices by the informal group of experts under the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Amended Protocol II)<sup>240</sup> and on the technical annex to the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V)<sup>241</sup> to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,<sup>242</sup> and further noting that, for States parties thereto, anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature also fall within the scope of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,<sup>243</sup>

*Noting further* the multilateral efforts to counter improvised explosive devices of the Programme Global Shield, led by the World Customs Organization and assisted by the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to prevent the smuggling and illicit diversion of precursor chemicals that could be used to build improvised explosive devices, the network of regional and multilateral communities of action established by States to counter improvised explosive devices, the research on those devices undertaken by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research and the work undertaken by the Mine Action Service of the United Nations to mitigate the threat posed by those devices to civilians, United Nations staff, peacekeepers and humanitarian personnel, in particular in the field,

*Taking note* of the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings<sup>244</sup> and the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy<sup>245</sup> and the efforts undertaken to strengthen the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the Strategy, including through the establishment of the Office of Counter-Terrorism,<sup>246</sup>

*Reaffirming* the inherent right of Member States to individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter,

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<sup>238</sup> See Security Council resolution [2370 \(2017\)](#).

<sup>239</sup> See Security Council resolution [2365 \(2017\)](#).

<sup>240</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2048, No. 22495.

<sup>241</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2399, No. 22495.

<sup>242</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1342, No. 22495.

<sup>243</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2056, No. 35597.

<sup>244</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2149, No. 37517.

<sup>245</sup> Resolution [60/288](#).

<sup>246</sup> See resolution [71/291](#).

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1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 72/36,<sup>247</sup> including the recommendations contained therein;
2. *Recognizes* that existing approaches in multilateral arms regulation, while valuable, do not fully address the use of improvised explosive devices in conflict and immediate post-conflict environments, and therefore strongly urges States to develop and implement, where appropriate, all national measures, including outreach and partnerships with relevant actors, including the private sector, necessary to promote awareness, vigilance and good practices among their nationals, persons subject to their jurisdiction and firms incorporated in their territory or subject to their jurisdiction that are involved in the production, sale, supply, purchase, transfer and/or storage of precursor components and materials that could be used to make improvised explosive devices;
3. *Strongly encourages* States, where appropriate, to develop and adopt their own national policy to counter improvised explosive devices that includes civilian-military cooperation, to strengthen their countermeasure capability, to prevent their territory from being used for terrorist purposes and to combat illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients in their use of improvised explosive devices, while bearing in mind their obligations under applicable international law, and notes that the policy could include measures to support international and regional efforts to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from and mitigate attacks using improvised explosive devices and their widespread consequences;
4. *Urges* all States, in particular those that have the capacity to do so, as well as the United Nations system and other relevant organizations and institutions supporting affected States, to increase attention to prevention and to provide support to reduce the risks posed by improvised explosive devices in a manner which takes into consideration the different needs of women, girls, boys and men;
5. *Stresses* the need for States to take appropriate measures to strengthen the management of their national ammunition stockpiles to prevent the diversion of materials for making improvised explosive devices to illicit markets, illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, and encourages the application of the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines for the safer and more secure management of ammunition stockpiles, while also recognizing the importance of capacity-building, through both technical and financial assistance, in this regard, as well as the contributions made by various United Nations entities to that end;<sup>248</sup>
6. *Underlines* that, for the issue of improvised explosive devices to be effectively addressed, it is essential to comprehend the importance of action needed at the local and community levels, engaging with community leaders and relevant civil society organizations through activities ranging from awareness-raising of the threat posed by such devices and of possible threat mitigation measures, in conjunction with distributors and local retailers, and intelligence-gathering, to establishing deradicalization programmes, and the need for Governments to engage continuously with local authorities and groups, and encourages States in a position to do so to support initiatives and efforts to that end;
7. *Encourages* States to enhance, as appropriate, international and regional cooperation, including the sharing of information on good practices as appropriate and where relevant, in cooperation with the private sector, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Customs Organization, in order to address the theft, diversion, loss and illicit use of materials for making improvised explosive devices, while ensuring the security of sensitive information that is shared;
8. *Encourages* States and the private sector to increase prevention efforts by taking measures to stem the transfer of knowledge of improvised explosive devices and their construction and use by illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, as well as measures to stem the illicit acquisition of components over the Internet;
9. *Encourages* States to increase prevention efforts by taking measures, including awareness-raising, support for research and data collection, to combat illicit procurement of components, explosives and materials for the construction of improvised explosive devices, including through the use of the “dark web”;<sup>249</sup>

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<sup>247</sup> A/73/156.

<sup>248</sup> The General Assembly, in its resolution 66/42, welcomed the completion of the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines and the establishment of the “SaferGuard” knowledge resource management programme for the stockpile management of conventional ammunition.

<sup>249</sup> Content of the dark web exists on overlay networks which use the Internet but require specific software, configurations or authorizations that are not indexed by search engines.

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10. *Also encourages* States to participate, in accordance with their obligations and commitments, in the ongoing work on improvised explosive devices by the informal group of experts under the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Amended Protocol II)<sup>240</sup> to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,<sup>242</sup> while recognizing the role of the United Nations and other international organizations in providing technical support and insight for these discussions;

11. *Further encourages* States to participate, as appropriate, in a comprehensive and coordinated community of action to counter improvised explosive devices in accordance with their respective international obligations and commitments, and to consider supporting the Programme Global Shield of the World Customs Organization and other multilateral and regional efforts;

12. *Encourages* States, the United Nations and international, regional and other organizations with relevant expertise that are in a position to do so to render to interested States, upon their request, technical, financial and material assistance aimed at strengthening the capacity of such States to counter the threat of improvised explosive devices, including through assistance for the development of good practices for the protection of civilians from attacks using such devices and for the development of standards to ensure the safety of personnel involved in the disposal of improvised explosive devices, and to provide appropriate assistance to the victims of such attacks;

13. *Encourages* States to respond to the needs of today's peacekeepers to operate in new threat environments involving improvised explosive devices, including by providing, in consultation and cooperation with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, the appropriate training, capabilities, information and knowledge management and technology required to counter improvised explosive devices, and to ensure that adequate financial resources are allocated to meet such needs, takes note of the Guidelines on Improvised Explosive Device Threat Mitigation in Mission Settings developed by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support of the Secretariat,<sup>250</sup> and encourages the full implementation of the Guidelines in all peacekeeping operations;

14. *Recognizes* that improvised explosive devices are being increasingly used in terrorist activities, takes note of the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and the Office of Counter-Terrorism related to the prevention of the acquisition of weapons by terrorists, and encourages all relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue to address the issue of improvised explosive devices, as appropriate and in line with their respective mandates, and to coordinate their activities to that end;

15. *Urges* Member States to comply fully with all relevant United Nations resolutions, including those related to preventing terrorist groups from using and accessing materials that can be used in the making of improvised explosive devices;<sup>251</sup>

16. *Encourages* States and relevant international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations, including international industry associations, to continue to build upon existing awareness, prevention and risk education campaigns regarding the urgent threat of improvised explosive devices and to disseminate threat mitigation measures;

17. *Encourages* States and relevant international and regional organizations to engage, as appropriate, with private sector entities in discussions and initiatives on countering improvised explosive devices, including on issues such as accountability throughout the supply chain for dual-use components, traceability procedures, improving the regulation of explosive precursors, where possible and as appropriate, strengthening security for the transport and storage of explosives and of precursors, as well as enhancing the vetting procedures for personnel with access to explosives or to precursors useful to the manufacture of explosives, while avoiding undue restrictions on the legitimate use of and access to such materials;

18. *Notes* the relevant research undertaken by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, encourages it to continue research in the area of prevention strategies, and encourages States in a position to do so to continue to support its work in this area;

19. *Strongly encourages* States to share information, on a voluntary basis, on the diversion of commercial-grade explosives and commercially available detonators to the illicit trade and transfers to illegal armed groups, terrorists

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<sup>250</sup> Available at [www.un.org/disarmament/convarms/ieds](http://www.un.org/disarmament/convarms/ieds).

<sup>251</sup> Including Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001), 2160 (2014), 2161 (2014), 2199 (2015), 2253 (2015), 2255 (2015) and 2370 (2017).

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and other unauthorized recipients, through relevant channels, including the INTERPOL Project Watchmaker, Chemical Anti-Smuggling Enforcement and Chemical Risk Identification and Mitigation programmes and the Programme Global Shield of the World Customs Organization;

20. *Encourages* States to share information related to countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices;

21. *Takes into account* the existing initiatives at the international, regional and national levels to counter improvised explosive devices, and encourages the engagement by States in an open and inclusive dialogue on steps forward to harmonize diverse ongoing efforts, including those on raising awareness and preventive strategies;

22. *Urges* States in a position to do so to contribute funding to the diverse areas of work needed to effectively address the issue of improvised explosive devices, including research, clearance, ammunition stockpile management, preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, awareness-raising, capacity-building, information management and victim assistance, through existing trust funds and arrangements, including those of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research and the Office for Disarmament Affairs and the United Nations voluntary trust fund for assistance in mine action, efforts undertaken under relevant conventions<sup>252</sup> or through regional or national programmes;

23. *Welcomes* the establishment by the Office for Disarmament Affairs, in coordination with other relevant entities, of an online information hub that provides impartial, authoritative information relevant to addressing the issue of improvised explosive devices in a comprehensive manner, and encourages States to utilize the hub to access existing initiatives, policies, documents and tools relevant to countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices;

24. *Takes note* of the completion of the United Nations Improvised Explosive Device Disposal Standards, coordinated by the Mine Action Service of the United Nations in cooperation with national technical experts, applicable where the context or mandate is not humanitarian;

25. *Also takes note* of the ongoing update of the International Mine Action Standards with regard to improvised explosive devices, which serve as the guiding framework for humanitarian mine action operations, and urges the International Mine Action Standards Review Board to rapidly finalize the update;

26. *Notes* that the United Nations Policy on Survivor Assistance in Mine Action highlights the significance of integrating survivor assistance efforts into broader international and national frameworks, as well as the importance of sustained services and support to survivors, including the survivors of attacks involving improvised explosive devices;

27. *Also notes* the completion of the United Nations Peacekeeping Missions Military Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit Manual and the Improvised Explosive Device Threat Mitigation Military and Police Handbook by the Office of Military Affairs of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Mine Action Service, respectively, to support the capacity of United Nations peacekeepers to effectively address the risks posed by such devices;

28. *Encourages* States in a position to do so to support the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, in consultation with relevant bodies of the United Nations system, in developing a voluntary self-assessment tool to assist States in identifying gaps and challenges in their national regulation and preparedness regarding improvised explosive devices;

29. *Recognizes* the important contribution of civil society to addressing the issue of improvised explosive devices, including in clearance, awareness-raising, risk education, victim assistance and preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, in particular at the local and community levels;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, focusing on awareness and prevention strategies, acknowledging and taking into account existing efforts, both inside and outside the United Nations, and seeking the views of Member States;

31. *Encourages* States to continue to hold open, informal consultations, where appropriate, focusing on raising awareness, prevention and coordination within the United Nations system and beyond, with information provided by

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<sup>252</sup> Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects and Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction.



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States, international and regional organizations as well as experts from non-governmental organizations, including relevant private sector stakeholders, on efforts to prevent, counter and mitigate the threat posed by improvised explosive devices, which could assist the General Assembly in maintaining a comprehensive overview of relevant global activities;

32. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices”.

### RESOLUTION 73/68

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>253</sup> by a recorded vote of 136 to 36, with 14 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Andorra, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Georgia, India, Japan, Pakistan, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

#### 73/68. Ethical imperatives for a nuclear-weapon-free world

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 70/50 of 7 December 2015, adopted on the occasion of the seventieth anniversary of the United Nations, which was established to save succeeding generations from the untold suffering of the scourge of war, and its resolution 72/37 of 4 December 2017,

*Recalling also* that the United Nations emerged at the time of the immense trail of death and destruction resulting from the Second World War, 73 years ago,

*Recalling further* the noble principles of the Charter of the United Nations, which enjoin the international community, individually and collectively, to spare no effort in promoting the ethical imperative of “in larger freedom”, so that all peoples may enjoy freedom from want, freedom from fear and the freedom to live in dignity,

*Convinced* that, given the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks associated with a nuclear weapon detonation, Member States have long envisaged nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation as urgent and interlinked ethical imperatives in achieving the objectives of the Charter, which is reflected in the first resolution, resolution 1 (I), adopted by the General Assembly on 24 January 1946, aimed at the elimination from national armaments of atomic weapons and of all other major weapons adaptable to mass destruction,

*Acknowledging*, in this connection, the ethical imperatives outlined in the provisions of its resolutions and reports and those of other related international initiatives on the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks posed by a nuclear weapon detonation, including the declaration that the use of nuclear weapons would cause

<sup>253</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Austria, Benin, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eswatini, Ghana, Guatemala, Ireland, Lesotho, Mexico, Namibia, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Samoa, Seychelles, South Africa, Thailand, Togo, Uganda, Uruguay and Viet Nam.

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indiscriminate suffering and as such is a violation of the Charter and the laws of humanity and international law,<sup>254</sup> the condemnation of nuclear war as contrary to human conscience and a violation of the fundamental right to life,<sup>255</sup> the threat to the very survival of humankind posed by the existence of nuclear weapons,<sup>256</sup> the detrimental environmental effects of the use of nuclear weapons,<sup>257</sup> and the disquiet that was expressed at the continued spending on the development and maintenance of nuclear arsenals,<sup>258</sup>

*Acknowledging also* the preamble to and article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons<sup>259</sup> and the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons,<sup>260</sup> in which the Court unanimously concluded that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

*Acknowledging further* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>261</sup> in which Heads of State and Government resolved to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving that aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

*Concerned* that, despite the long-standing recognition that it has accorded to these ethical imperatives and while much effort has been directed to addressing nuclear non-proliferation, limited progress has been made in meeting the nuclear disarmament obligations required to achieve and maintain the nuclear-weapon-free world that the international community demands,

*Disappointed* at the continued absence of progress towards multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament in the Conference on Disarmament, despite unrelenting efforts of Member States towards this end,

*Noting with satisfaction* the increasing awareness, renewed attention and growing momentum that has been generated by Member States and the international community since 2010 regarding the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks associated with nuclear weapons, which underpin the ethical imperatives for nuclear disarmament and the urgency of achieving and maintaining a nuclear-weapon-free world, together with all related international initiatives,

*Recalling* the adoption on 7 July 2017 of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>262</sup> in which the ethical imperatives for nuclear disarmament are acknowledged,

*Conscious* of the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in relation to nuclear disarmament, and determined to promote multilateralism as essential to nuclear disarmament negotiations,

1. *Calls upon* all States to acknowledge the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks posed by a nuclear weapon detonation, whether by accident, miscalculation or design;
2. *Acknowledges* the ethical imperatives for nuclear disarmament and the urgency of achieving and maintaining a nuclear-weapon-free world, which is a “global public good of the highest order”, serving both national and collective security interests;
3. *Declares* that:
  - (a) The global threat posed by nuclear weapons must urgently be eliminated;
  - (b) Discussions, decisions and actions on nuclear weapons must focus on the effects of these weapons on human beings and the environment and must be guided by the unspeakable suffering and unacceptable harm that they cause;

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<sup>254</sup> See resolution [1653 \(XVI\)](#).

<sup>255</sup> See resolution [38/75](#).

<sup>256</sup> See resolution [S-10/2](#).

<sup>257</sup> See resolution [50/70 M](#).

<sup>258</sup> See [A/59/119](#).

<sup>259</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

<sup>260</sup> [A/51/218](#), annex.

<sup>261</sup> Resolution [55/2](#).

<sup>262</sup> [A/CONF.229/2017/8](#).

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(c) Greater attention must be given to the impact of a nuclear weapon detonation on women and the importance of their participation in discussions, decisions and actions on nuclear weapons;

(d) Nuclear weapons serve to undermine collective security, heighten the risk of nuclear catastrophe, aggravate international tension and make conflict more dangerous;

(e) Arguments in favour of the retention of nuclear weapons have a negative impact on the credibility of the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime;

(f) The long-term plans for the modernization of nuclear weapons arsenals run contrary to commitments and obligations to nuclear disarmament and engender perceptions of the indefinite possession of these weapons;

(g) In a world where basic human needs have not yet been met, the vast resources allocated to the modernization of nuclear weapons arsenals could instead be redirected to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals;<sup>263</sup>

(h) Given the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, it is inconceivable that any use of nuclear weapons, irrespective of the cause, would be compatible with the requirements of international humanitarian law or international law, or the laws of morality, or the dictates of public conscience;

(i) Given their indiscriminate nature and potential to annihilate humanity, nuclear weapons are inherently immoral;

4. *Notes* that all responsible States have a solemn duty to take decisions that serve to protect their people and each other from the ravages of a nuclear weapon detonation, and that the only way for States to do so is through the total elimination of nuclear weapons;

5. *Stresses* that all States share an ethical responsibility to act with urgency and determination, with the support of all relevant stakeholders, to take the effective measures, including legally binding measures, necessary to eliminate and prohibit all nuclear weapons, given their catastrophic humanitarian consequences and associated risks;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Ethical imperatives for a nuclear-weapon-free world”.

### RESOLUTION 73/69

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101)<sup>264</sup>

#### **73/69. The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 72/57 of 4 December 2017, as well as all previous resolutions on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, including resolution 56/24 V of 24 December 2001,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the continued and full implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted by the United

<sup>263</sup> See resolution 70/1.

<sup>264</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

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Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,<sup>265</sup> and recognizing its important contribution to international efforts on this matter,

*Emphasizing also* the importance of the continued and full implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (the International Tracing Instrument),<sup>266</sup>

*Recalling* the commitment of States to the Programme of Action as the main framework for measures within the activities of the international community to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

*Underlining* the need for States to enhance their efforts to build national capacity for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument,

*Mindful* of the implementation of the outcomes adopted by the follow-up meetings on the Programme of Action,

*Welcoming* the successful conclusion of the third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (the third Review Conference), held in New York from 18 to 29 June 2018,

*Recognizing* the need for strengthened participation of women in decision-making and implementation processes relating to the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, and reaffirming the need for States to mainstream gender dimensions in their implementation efforts,

*Noting* that web-based tools developed by the Secretariat, including its searchable database and the Modular Small-arms-control Implementation Compendium, and the tools developed by Member States could be used to assess progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action,

*Reaffirming* the acknowledgement, by the third Review Conference in its outcome document,<sup>267</sup> of the proposal on the establishment of a dedicated fellowship training programme on small arms and light weapons in order to strengthen technical knowledge and expertise in areas relating to the implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, in particular in developing countries,

*Reaffirming also* the importance of the early designation of the Presidents of future review conferences and the Chairs of future biennial meetings of States,

*Noting* that voluntary national reports on the implementation of the Programme of Action can serve, inter alia, to provide a baseline for measuring progress in its implementation, build confidence and promote transparency, provide a basis for information exchange and action and serve to identify needs and opportunities for international assistance and cooperation, including the matching of needs with available resources and expertise,

*Noting with satisfaction* regional and subregional efforts being undertaken in support of the implementation of the Programme of Action, and commending the progress that has already been made in this regard, including the tackling of both supply and demand factors that are relevant to addressing the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons,

*Reaffirming* that international cooperation and assistance are an essential aspect of the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument,

*Recognizing* the efforts undertaken by non-governmental organizations in the provision of assistance to States for the implementation of the Programme of Action,

*Recalling* that Governments bear the primary responsibility for preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, in accordance with the sovereignty of States and their relevant international obligations,

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<sup>265</sup> Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001 (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

<sup>266</sup> See decision 60/519 and A/60/88 and A/60/88/Corr.2, annex.

<sup>267</sup> A/CONF.192/2018/RC/3, annex.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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*Reiterating* that illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons is a serious problem that the international community should address urgently,

*Highlighting* new challenges and potential opportunities with regard to effective marking, record-keeping and tracing resulting from developments in the manufacturing, technology and design of small arms and light weapons, and bearing in mind the different situations, capacities and priorities of States and regions,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>268</sup> which includes an overview of the implementation of resolution 72/57,

*Welcoming* the inclusion of small arms and light weapons in the scope of the Arms Trade Treaty,<sup>269</sup>

*Acknowledging* efforts related to the transfer of conventional arms that may also contribute to the prevention and eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons,

1. *Underlines* the fact that the issue of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects requires concerted efforts at the national, regional and international levels to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons, and that their uncontrolled spread in many regions of the world has a wide range of humanitarian and socioeconomic consequences and poses a serious threat to peace, reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable development at the individual, local, national, regional and international levels;

2. *Recognizes* the urgent need to maintain and enhance national controls, in accordance with the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,<sup>265</sup> to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, including their diversion to illicit trade, illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, taking into account, inter alia, their adverse humanitarian and socioeconomic consequences for the affected States;

3. *Calls upon* all States to implement the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (the International Tracing Instrument)<sup>266</sup> by, inter alia, including in their national reports the name and contact information of the national points of contact and information on national marking practices used to indicate country of manufacture and/or country of import, as applicable;

4. *Encourages* all relevant initiatives, including those of the United Nations, other international organizations, regional and subregional organizations, non-governmental organizations and civil society, for the successful implementation of the Programme of Action, and calls upon all Member States to contribute towards the continued implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, regional and global levels;

5. *Encourages* States to implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to resolution 60/81 to consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons;<sup>270</sup>

6. *Endorses* the outcome of the third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 18 to 29 June 2018 (the third Review Conference),<sup>267</sup>

7. *Decides*, pursuant to the schedule of meetings for the period from 2018 to 2024 agreed upon at the third Review Conference, to convene a one-week biennial meeting of States in 2020 to consider key challenges and opportunities relating to the implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument at the national, regional and global levels for the purposes of preventing and combating the diversion and the illicit international transfer of small arms and light weapons to unauthorized recipients, as well as a one-week biennial meeting of States in 2022;

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<sup>268</sup> A/73/168.

<sup>269</sup> See resolution 67/234 B.

<sup>270</sup> See A/62/163 and A/62/163/Corr.1.

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8. *Also decides* to convene the fourth United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects in 2024, to be preceded by a preparatory committee meeting in early 2024 of not more than five days;

9. *Underlines* the importance of the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument for attaining Goal 16 and target 16.4 of the Sustainable Development Goals;<sup>271</sup>

10. *Emphasizes* that international cooperation and assistance remain essential to the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, while being mindful of the need to ensure the adequacy, effectiveness and sustainability of international cooperation and assistance;

11. *Also emphasizes* the fact that initiatives by the international community with respect to international cooperation and assistance remain essential and complementary to national implementation efforts, as well as to those at the regional and global levels;

12. *Recognizes* the necessity for interested States to develop effective coordination mechanisms, where they do not exist, in order to match the needs of States with existing resources to enhance the implementation of the Programme of Action and to make international cooperation and assistance more effective, and in this regard encourages States to make use, as appropriate, of the Programme of Action Implementation Support System;

13. *Encourages* States to consider, among other mechanisms, the coherent identification of needs, priorities, national plans and programmes that may require international cooperation and assistance from States and regional and international organizations in a position to do so;

14. *Also encourages* States, on a voluntary basis, to make increasing use of their national reports as another tool for communicating assistance needs and information on the resources and mechanisms available to address such needs, and encourages States in a position to render such assistance to make use of those national reports;

15. *Encourages* States, relevant international and regional organizations and civil society with the capacity to do so to cooperate with and provide assistance to other States, upon request, in the preparation of comprehensive reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action;

16. *Encourages* States to reinforce, as necessary, cross-border cooperation at the national, subregional and regional levels in addressing the common problem of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, with full respect for each State's sovereignty over its own borders;

17. *Also encourages* States to take full advantage of the benefits of cooperation with the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament, the World Customs Organization, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in accordance with their mandates and consistent with national priorities;

18. *Encourages* all efforts to build national capacity for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action, including those highlighted in the outcome document of the third Review Conference;

19. *Encourages* States to submit, on a voluntary basis, national reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action, notes that States will submit national reports on their implementation of the International Tracing Instrument, encourages those States in a position to do so to use the reporting template made available by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, and reaffirms the utility of synchronizing such reports with biennial meetings of States and review conferences as a means of increasing the submission rate and improving the utility of reports, as well as contributing substantively to meeting discussions;

20. *Encourages* States in a position to do so to provide financial assistance, through a voluntary sponsorship fund, that could be distributed, upon request, to States otherwise unable to participate in meetings on the Programme of Action;

21. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Secretary-General to establish a multi-partner trust facility within the Peacebuilding Fund, dedicated to providing sustainable, cross-sectional, multi-year programming focused on

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<sup>271</sup> See resolution 70/1.



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eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in settings of conflict and pervasive crime, and encourages States in a position to do so to make voluntary contributions to the facility;

22. *Encourages* interested States and relevant international and regional organizations in a position to do so to convene regional meetings to consider and advance the implementation of the Programme of Action, as well as the International Tracing Instrument, including in preparation for the meetings on the Programme of Action;

23. *Encourages* civil society and relevant organizations to strengthen their cooperation and work with States at the respective national and regional levels to achieve the implementation of the Programme of Action;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution and to take into account in that report, among other issues, the views of Member States with regard to the recent developments in small arms and light weapons manufacturing, technology and design, in particular polymer and modular weapons, including on their associated opportunities and challenges, as well as their impact on the effective implementation of the International Tracing Instrument, and to make recommendations on ways of addressing them;

25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects”.

### RESOLUTION 73/70

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>272</sup> by a recorded vote of 139 to 32, with 17 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, China, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Finland, Georgia, Iceland, Japan, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine

#### **73/70. Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 1 (I) of 24 January 1946, 71/54 of 5 December 2016 and 72/39 of 4 December 2017,

*Noting* the twentieth anniversary of the launch of the New Agenda Coalition and the joint declaration outlining a new agenda for disarmament, adopted in Dublin on 9 June 1998,<sup>273</sup>

<sup>272</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Brazil, Costa Rica, Egypt, Ghana, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Philippines, Samoa, Seychelles, South Africa and Thailand.

<sup>273</sup> A/53/138, annex.

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*Recalling* its resolution [72/243](#) of 22 December 2017, in which it decided to hold a high-level plenary meeting in 2018, the Nelson Mandela Peace Summit, in honour of the centenary of the birth of Nelson Mandela, welcoming the political declaration adopted by the Summit on 24 September 2018,<sup>274</sup> in which it recalled the firm plea made by Nelson Mandela in favour of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, and underscoring commitments towards that goal,

*Welcoming* the launch of the Secretary-General's disarmament agenda, *Securing Our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament*, in Geneva on 24 May 2018,

*Reiterating its grave concern* at the danger to humanity posed by nuclear weapons, which should inform all deliberations, decisions and actions relating to nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation,

*Recalling* the expression of deep concern by the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and its resolve to seek a safer world for all and to achieve the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons,<sup>275</sup>

*Noting with satisfaction* the renewed attention to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks associated with nuclear weapons that has been generated by the international community since 2010 and the growing awareness that these concerns should underpin the need for nuclear disarmament and the urgency of achieving and maintaining a nuclear-weapon-free world, and noting with satisfaction also the prominence accorded to the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons in multilateral disarmament forums,

*Recalling* the discussions held at the Conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, hosted by Norway, on 4 and 5 March 2013, Mexico, on 13 and 14 February 2014, and Austria, on 8 and 9 December 2014, aimed at understanding and developing a greater awareness of the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapon detonations which further reinforce the urgency of nuclear disarmament,

*Emphasizing* the compelling evidence, including that presented at the Conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, that has detailed the catastrophic consequences that would result from a nuclear weapon detonation, reaching well beyond national borders and also imperilling the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>276</sup> the lack of capacity of States and international organizations to deal with the aftermath and the risk of an occurrence, due to an accident, systems failure or human error,

*Noting* the strongly disproportionate and gendered impact of exposure to ionizing radiation for women and girls,

*Welcoming* the commemoration and promotion of 26 September as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons,

*Welcoming also* the adoption on 7 July 2017 of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, negotiated by the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination, pursuant to resolution [71/258](#) of 23 December 2016,<sup>277</sup>

*Underlining* the importance of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education,

*Reaffirming* that transparency, verifiability and irreversibility are cardinal principles applying to nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, which are mutually reinforcing processes,

*Recalling* the decisions and the resolution adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>278</sup> the basis upon which the Treaty was indefinitely

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<sup>274</sup> Resolution [73/1](#).

<sup>275</sup> See *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I ([NPT/CONF.2010/50 \(Vol. I\)](#)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*.

<sup>276</sup> See resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>277</sup> [A/CONF.229/2017/8](#).

<sup>278</sup> See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* ([NPT/CONF.1995/32 \(Part I\)](#) and [NPT/CONF.1995/32 \(Part I\)/Corr.2](#)), annex.

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extended, and the Final Documents of the 2000<sup>279</sup> and the 2010<sup>280</sup> Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and in particular the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament, in accordance with commitments made under article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>281</sup>

*Reaffirming* the commitment of all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to applying the principles of irreversibility, verifiability and transparency in relation to the implementation of their treaty obligations,

*Recognizing* the continued vital importance of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty<sup>282</sup> to the advancement of nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation objectives,

*Recalling* that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons and the legitimate interest of non-nuclear-weapon States in receiving unequivocal and legally binding negative security assurances from nuclear-weapon States pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Reaffirming* the conviction that, pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, the establishment and maintenance of nuclear-weapon-free zones enhances global and regional peace and security, strengthens the nuclear non-proliferation regime and contributes towards realizing the objectives of nuclear disarmament, and welcoming the Conferences of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia,

*Urging* States to continue to make real progress towards strengthening all existing nuclear-weapon-free zones, inter alia, through the ratification of existing treaties and relevant protocols and the withdrawal or revision of any reservations or interpretative declarations contrary to the object and purpose of the treaties establishing such zones,

*Recalling* the encouragement expressed at the 2010 Review Conference for the establishment of further nuclear-weapon-free zones, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, reaffirming the expectation that this will be followed by concerted international efforts to create such zones in areas where they do not currently exist, especially in the Middle East, in this context noting with deep disappointment the non-fulfilment of the agreement at the 2010 Review Conference on practical steps to fully implement the 1995 resolution on the Middle East,<sup>278</sup> and disappointed that no agreement could be reached at the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on this issue,

*Deeply disappointed* at the continued absence of progress towards multilateral nuclear disarmament at the Conference on Disarmament, which has been unable for the past 22 years to agree upon and implement a programme of work, and disappointed that the Disarmament Commission has not produced a substantive outcome on nuclear disarmament since 1999,

*Deeply regretting* the lack of any substantive outcome of the 2015 Review Conference,

*Disappointed* that the 2015 Review Conference missed an opportunity to strengthen the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, enhance progress towards its full implementation and universality and monitor the implementation of commitments made and actions agreed upon at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences, and deeply concerned about the impact of this failure on the Treaty and the balance between its three pillars,

*Noting with concern* the rising tensions in international relations and the increased prominence being given by some States to nuclear weapons in their security doctrines, including through modernization programmes,

*Noting* the second session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held in Geneva from 23 April to 4 May 2018,

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<sup>279</sup> 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II), NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Part III) and NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Part IV)).

<sup>280</sup> 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I), NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. II) and NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. III)).

<sup>281</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 729, No. 10485.

<sup>282</sup> See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

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*Emphasizing* the importance of a constructive and successful preparatory process leading to the 2020 Review Conference, and urging all Member States to step up their efforts in this regard, and emphasizing also that it should contribute to strengthening the Treaty and making progress towards achieving its full implementation and universality, and monitor the implementation of commitments made and actions agreed upon at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences,

*Welcoming* that the Russian Federation and the United States of America have completed the nuclear weapon reductions agreed under the new strategic arms reduction treaty, while re-emphasizing the encouragement of the 2010 Review Conference to both States to continue discussions on follow-on measures in order to achieve deeper reductions in their nuclear arsenals,

*Underlining* the importance of multilateralism in relation to nuclear disarmament, while recognizing the value of unilateral, bilateral and regional initiatives and the importance of compliance with the terms of these initiatives,

1. *Reiterates* that each article of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons<sup>281</sup> is binding on the States parties at all times and in all circumstances and that all States parties should be held fully accountable with respect to strict compliance with their obligations under the Treaty, and calls upon all States parties to comply fully with all decisions, resolutions and commitments made at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences;

2. *Also reiterates* the deep concern expressed by the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law;<sup>275</sup>

3. *Acknowledges* the evidence presented at the Conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, and calls upon Member States, in their relevant decisions and actions, to give due prominence to the humanitarian imperatives that underpin nuclear disarmament and to the urgency of achieving this goal;

4. *Recalls* the reaffirmation of the continued validity of the practical steps agreed to in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>283</sup> including the specific reaffirmation of the unequivocal undertaking of the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties are committed under article VI of the Treaty, recalls the commitment of the nuclear-weapon States to accelerating concrete progress on the steps leading to nuclear disarmament, and calls upon the nuclear-weapon States to take all steps necessary to accelerate the fulfilment of their commitments;

5. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to fulfil their commitment to undertaking further efforts to reduce and ultimately eliminate all types of nuclear weapons, deployed and non-deployed, including through unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures;

6. *Urges* all States possessing nuclear weapons to decrease the operational readiness of nuclear-weapon systems in a verifiable and transparent manner with a view to ensuring that all nuclear weapons are removed from high alert status;

7. *Encourages* the nuclear-weapon States to make concrete reductions in the role and significance of nuclear weapons in all military and security concepts, doctrines and policies, pending their total elimination;

8. *Encourages* all States that are part of regional alliances that include nuclear-weapon States to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in their collective security doctrines, pending their total elimination;

9. *Underlines* the recognition by States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of the legitimate interest of non-nuclear-weapon States in the constraining by the nuclear-weapon States of the development and qualitative improvement of nuclear weapons and their ending the development of advanced new types of nuclear weapons, and calls upon the nuclear-weapon States to take steps in this regard;

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<sup>283</sup> 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15.

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10. *Notes with concern* recent policy statements by nuclear-weapon States relating to the modernization of their nuclear weapon programmes, which undermine their commitments to nuclear disarmament and increase the risk of the use of nuclear weapons and the potential for a new arms race;

11. *Encourages* further steps by all nuclear-weapon States, in accordance with the previous obligations and commitments on nuclear disarmament, to ensure the irreversible removal of all fissile material designated by each nuclear-weapon State as no longer required for military purposes, and calls upon all States to support, within the context of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the development of appropriate nuclear disarmament verification capabilities and legally binding verification arrangements, thereby ensuring that such material remains permanently outside military programmes in a verifiable manner;

12. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to work towards the full implementation of the resolution on the Middle East adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>278</sup> which is inextricably linked to the indefinite extension of the Treaty, and expresses disappointment and deep concern at the lack of a substantive outcome of the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, including on the process to establish a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction as contained in the 1995 resolution on the Middle East, which remains valid until fully implemented;

13. *Urges* the co-sponsors of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East to exert their utmost efforts with a view to ensuring the early establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction as contained in the 1995 resolution on the Middle East, including through support for the convening of the conference on the establishment of such a zone;

14. *Stresses* the fundamental role of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in achieving nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, and looks forward to the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to be held in New York from 29 April to 10 May 2019;

15. *Calls upon* all States parties to spare no effort to achieve the universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and in this regard urges India, Israel and Pakistan to accede to the Treaty as non-nuclear-weapon States promptly and without conditions, and to place all their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

16. *Notes with encouragement* the dialogue and discussions held with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including the recent inter-Korean summits, and the summit between the United States of America and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, urges the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to fulfil its commitments, to abandon all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes, to return, at an early date, to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and to adhere to its International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards agreement,<sup>284</sup> with a view to achieving the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner, and reaffirms its firm support for the Six-Party Talks;

17. *Urges* all States to work together to overcome obstacles within the international disarmament machinery that are inhibiting efforts to advance the cause of nuclear disarmament in a multilateral context, and once again urges the Conference on Disarmament to commence immediately substantive work that advances the agenda of nuclear disarmament, particularly through multilateral negotiations;

18. *Urges* all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to fully implement without delay their obligations and commitments under the Treaty and as agreed to at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences;

19. *Also urges* all State parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to move forward with urgency in implementing their article VI obligations in order to ensure the good standing of the Treaty and its review process;

20. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to implement their nuclear disarmament obligations and commitments, both qualitative and quantitative, in a manner that enables the States parties to regularly monitor progress, including

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<sup>284</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1677, No. 28986.

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through a standard detailed reporting format, thereby enhancing confidence and trust not only among the nuclear-weapon States but also between the nuclear-weapon States and the non-nuclear-weapon States and contributing to nuclear disarmament;

21. *Also urges* the nuclear-weapon States to include in their reports to be submitted during the 2020 review cycle of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons concrete and detailed information concerning the implementation of their obligations and commitments on nuclear disarmament;

22. *Encourages* States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to improve the measurability of the implementation of nuclear disarmament obligations and commitments, including through tools such as a set of benchmarks or similar criteria, in order to ensure and facilitate the objective evaluation of progress;<sup>285</sup>

23. *Urges* Member States to pursue multilateral negotiations without delay in good faith on effective measures for the achievement and maintenance of a nuclear-weapon-free world, in keeping with the spirit and purpose of General Assembly resolution 1 (I) and article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

24. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to support efforts to identify, elaborate, negotiate and implement further effective legally binding measures for nuclear disarmament, and welcomes in this regard the adoption on 7 July 2017 of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons;<sup>277</sup>

25. *Recommends* that measures be taken to increase awareness among civil society of the risks and catastrophic impact of any nuclear detonation, including through disarmament education;

26. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments” and to review the implementation of the present resolution at that session.

### RESOLUTION 73/71

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>286</sup> by a recorded vote of 179 to none, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* France, Israel, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

<sup>285</sup> See [NPT/CONF.2020/PC.I/WP.13](#).

<sup>286</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Brazil, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Mongolia, Philippines and Thailand.



### 73/71. Fourth Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, 2020

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [64/52](#) of 2 December 2009 and [69/66](#) of 2 December 2014 by which it convened the second and third Conferences of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia in 2010 and 2015, respectively,

*Recognizing* the right of any group of States to conclude regional treaties in order to ensure the total absence of nuclear weapons in their respective territories, as established by article VII of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>287</sup>

*Recalling* the provisions on nuclear-weapon-free zones of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,<sup>288</sup>

*Welcoming* the important contribution of the treaties of Tlatelolco,<sup>289</sup> Rarotonga,<sup>290</sup> Bangkok<sup>291</sup> and Pelindaba<sup>292</sup> and the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, as well as the Antarctic Treaty,<sup>293</sup> to the achievement of the objectives of nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, and towards freeing the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons,

*Recalling* its resolution [71/43](#) of 5 December 2016 on Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status,

*Reaffirming* the conviction that, pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, the establishment and maintenance of nuclear-weapon-free zones enhances global and regional peace and security, strengthens the nuclear non-proliferation regime and contributes towards realizing the objectives of nuclear disarmament,

*Urging* States that have not yet established nuclear-weapon-free-zone treaties to accelerate efforts in this direction, particularly in the Middle East, through agreements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, in accordance with the provisions of the Final Document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament and the principles adopted by the Disarmament Commission in 1999,<sup>294</sup>

*Taking note* of paragraph 232 of the Final Document of the Eighteenth Midterm Ministerial Meeting of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Baku from 3 to 6 April 2018, in which the Ministers stated their belief that those nuclear-weapon-free zones were positive steps and important measures towards strengthening global nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation,

*Recalling* that States in regions in which there are nuclear-weapon-free zones are encouraged to ratify the respective treaties that establish said zones,

*Recalling also* that it is expected that the States to which the protocols to the treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones are open for signature ratify them and constructively consult and cooperate to bring about the entry into force of the protocols,

*Noting* that, among other aspects, those protocols include the necessary security guarantees for the States belonging to nuclear-weapon-free zones,

*Recognizing* the progress made on increased collaboration within and between zones at the first, second and third Conferences of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, held in

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<sup>287</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

<sup>288</sup> Resolution [S-10/2](#).

<sup>289</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

<sup>290</sup> *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

<sup>291</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

<sup>292</sup> [A/50/426](#), annex.

<sup>293</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

<sup>294</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/54/42)*, annex I, sect. C.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

Mexico City from 26 to 28 April 2005 and in New York on 30 April 2010 and 24 April 2015, respectively, at which States reaffirmed their need to cooperate in order to achieve their common objectives,

1. *Decides* to convene the fourth Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia as a one-day conference at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 24 April 2020;
2. *Invites* all States Members and observer States of the United Nations that are States parties or signatories to the treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia to participate in the Conference;
3. *Invites* all States parties and signatories to the protocols to the treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones to participate in the capacity of observers;
4. *Encourages* all the other States Members and observer States of the United Nations to participate in the capacity of observers;
5. *Decides* that the objective of the Conference will be to consider ways and means to enhance consultations and cooperation among nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia, the treaty agencies and interested States, with the purpose of promoting coordination and convergence in the implementation of the provisions of the treaties and in strengthening the regime of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;
6. *Urges* the States parties and signatories to treaties that have established nuclear-weapon-free zones to develop activities of cooperation and coordination in order to promote their common objectives in the framework of the Conference;
7. *Welcomes* the offer by Mongolia to act as coordinator of the fourth Conference and to conduct preparatory meetings and informal consultations, including with relevant regional organizations, as may be necessary to prepare for the Conference and its rules of procedure and draft outcome document, beginning in early 2019;
8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the support necessary to convene the fourth Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia and to transmit the report of the fourth Conference to the Conference on Disarmament and the Disarmament Commission.

### RESOLUTION 73/72

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1, para. 101),<sup>295</sup> by a recorded vote of 180 to 2, with 1 abstention, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Palau

<sup>295</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Guinea, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Suriname, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe.

### 73/72. Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 60/66 of 8 December 2005, 61/75 of 6 December 2006, 62/43 of 5 December 2007, 63/68 of 2 December 2008, 64/49 of 2 December 2009, 65/68 of 8 December 2010, 68/50 of 5 December 2013, 69/38 of 2 December 2014, 70/53 of 7 December 2015, 71/42 of 5 December 2016, 71/90 of 6 December 2016 and 72/56 of 4 December 2017, as well as its decision 66/517 of 2 December 2011,

*Recalling also* the report of the Secretary-General of 15 October 1993 to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, the annex to which contains the study by governmental experts on the application of confidence-building measures in outer space,<sup>296</sup>

*Reaffirming* the right of all countries to explore and use outer space in accordance with international law,

*Reaffirming also* that preventing an arms race in outer space is in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and is an essential condition for the promotion and strengthening of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

*Recalling*, in this context, its resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990 and 48/74 B of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, it recognized the need for increased transparency and confirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as a means of reinforcing the objective of preventing an arms race in outer space,

*Noting* the constructive debates that the Conference on Disarmament has held on this subject and the views expressed by Member States,

*Noting also* the introduction by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament of the draft treaty on prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects,<sup>297</sup> and the submission of its updated version<sup>298</sup> in 2014,

*Noting further* that, since 2004, several States<sup>299</sup> have introduced a policy of not being the first State to place weapons in outer space,

*Welcoming* the launch of discussions in the working group of the Disarmament Commission tasked with preparing recommendations relating to the practical implementation of transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities with the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space,

*Noting* the presentation by the European Union of a draft of a non-legally binding international code of conduct for outer space activities,

*Recognizing* that the work within the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and its Legal Subcommittee, including the promotion of the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, has a fundamental role to play in enhancing transparency and confidence-building among States and in ensuring that outer space is maintained for peaceful purposes,

*Noting* the contribution of Member States that have submitted to the Secretary-General concrete proposals on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures pursuant to paragraph 1 of resolution 61/75, paragraph 2 of resolution 62/43, paragraph 2 of resolution 63/68 and paragraph 2 of resolution 64/49,

*Welcoming* the work done in 2012 and 2013 by the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer Space Activities, which was convened by the Secretary-General, on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, to conduct a study on outer space transparency and confidence-building measures,

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<sup>296</sup> A/48/305 and A/48/305/Corr.1.

<sup>297</sup> See CD/1839.

<sup>298</sup> See CD/1985.

<sup>299</sup> Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tajikistan, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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*Noting* the consideration of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts,<sup>300</sup> as well as views on the modalities of making practical use of the recommendations contained therein, as set out in the report of the Committee on its fifty-eighth session, held in 2015,<sup>301</sup> at which it found that the Committee had a fundamental role to play in enhancing transparency and confidence-building among States, as well as in ensuring that outer space is maintained for peaceful purposes,

*Noting also* that, in its report, the Group of Governmental Experts recognized the value of the work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in developing a set of voluntary, non-legally binding guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, some of which could be considered as potential transparency and confidence-building measures, while others could enhance the safety of outer space activities and thereby provide the technical basis for the further implementation of additional transparency and confidence-building measures,

*Taking note* of the special report by the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space) on the implementation of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer Space Activities, and the recommendations contained therein, as submitted to the Committee at its fifty-ninth session, in 2016,<sup>302</sup>

*Welcoming* resolution 186 of 7 November 2014 of the International Telecommunication Union on strengthening the role of the Union with regard to transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities, adopted by the 2014 Plenipotentiary Conference of the Union, held in Busan, Republic of Korea, from 20 October to 7 November 2014,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer Space Activities,<sup>300</sup> considered by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013;

2. *Encourages* Member States to continue to review and implement, to the greatest extent practicable, the proposed transparency and confidence-building measures contained in the report, through the relevant national mechanisms, on a voluntary basis and in a manner consistent with the national interests of Member States;

3. *Also encourages* Member States, in accordance with the recommendations contained in the report, with a view to promoting the practical implementation of transparency and confidence-building measures, to hold regular discussions in the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament on the prospects for their implementation;

4. *Requests* the relevant entities and organizations of the United Nations system, to which, in accordance with its resolution 68/50, the report was circulated, to assist in effectively implementing the conclusions and recommendations contained therein, as appropriate;

5. *Encourages* the relevant entities and organizations of the United Nations system to coordinate, as appropriate, on matters related to the recommendations contained in the report;

6. *Welcomes* the joint ad hoc meetings of the First and Fourth Committees, held on 22 October 2015 and 12 October 2017, on possible challenges to space security and sustainability, convened in accordance with the report and its resolutions 69/38 and 71/90, and the substantive exchanges of opinions on various aspects of security in outer space that took place during the meetings;

7. *Calls upon* Member States and the relevant entities and organizations of the United Nations system to support the implementation of the full range of conclusions and recommendations contained in the report;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities in the United Nations system, which contains summaries of the submissions received from Member States giving their views on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities;<sup>303</sup>

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<sup>300</sup> A/68/189.

<sup>301</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/70/20).*

<sup>302</sup> A/AC.105/1116.

<sup>303</sup> A/72/65 and A/72/65/Add.1.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

9. *Invites* Member States to continue to submit, within the relevant forums, information on the specific unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities implemented in accordance with the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts;

10. *Decides* to convene, within existing resources, a joint half-day panel discussion of the Disarmament and International Security Committee (First Committee) and the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) to address possible challenges to space security and sustainability, and to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, a sub-item entitled “Joint panel discussion of the First and Fourth Committees on possible challenges to space security and sustainability”;

11. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities”.

### RESOLUTION 73/73

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/511, para. 24)<sup>304</sup>

#### **73/73. United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>305</sup>

*Recalling* its decision, contained in paragraph 108 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,<sup>306</sup> to establish a programme of fellowships on disarmament, as well as its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly, the second special session devoted to disarmament,<sup>307</sup> including its decision to continue the programme,

*Noting* that the programme continues to contribute significantly to developing greater awareness of the importance and benefits of disarmament and a better understanding of the concerns of the international community in the field of disarmament and security, as well as to enhancing the knowledge and skills of fellows, allowing them to participate more effectively in efforts in the field of disarmament at all levels,

*Recognizing* the need for Member States to take into account gender equality when nominating candidates to the programme,

*Recalling* all the resolutions on the matter since the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly, in 1982, including resolution 50/71 A of 12 December 1995,

*Believing* that the forms of assistance available under the programme to Member States, in particular to developing countries, will enhance the capabilities of their officials to follow ongoing deliberations and negotiations on disarmament, both bilateral and multilateral,

<sup>304</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, China, Colombia, Comoros, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo and Uganda.

<sup>305</sup> A/73/113.

<sup>306</sup> Resolution S-10/2.

<sup>307</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes*, agenda items 9–13, document A/S-12/32.



## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

1. *Reaffirms* its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly<sup>307</sup> and the guidelines approved by the Assembly in its resolution [33/71](#) E of 14 December 1978,<sup>308</sup>
2. *Notes with satisfaction* that the programme has trained a large number of officials from Member States throughout its 40 years of existence, many of whom hold positions of responsibility in the field of disarmament within their own Governments;
3. *Expresses its appreciation* to all Member States and organizations that have consistently supported the programme throughout the years, thereby contributing to its success, in particular to the European Union and to the Governments of China, Germany, Japan, Kazakhstan, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland for continuing extensive and highly educative study visits for the participants in the programme during 2017 and 2018;
4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, the International Court of Justice, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Vienna Centre for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation for organizing specific study programmes in the field of disarmament in their respective areas of competence, thereby contributing to the objectives of the programme;
5. *Encourages* Member States to leverage the knowledge of the United Nations disarmament fellows as a useful resource on matters related to disarmament and international security;
6. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the diligence with which the programme has continued to be carried out;
7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to implement annually the programme within existing resources and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session;
8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly”, the sub-item entitled “United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services”.

### RESOLUTION 73/74

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/511](#), para. 24),<sup>309</sup> by a recorded vote of 124 to 50, with 13 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Armenia, Belarus, Brazil, Guyana, Haiti, Japan, Mali, Marshall Islands, Philippines, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Serbia, Thailand

<sup>308</sup> [A/33/305](#).

<sup>309</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Central African Republic, Cuba, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Samoa, Seychelles, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam.



### 73/74. Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

*The General Assembly,*

*Convinced* that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of humankind,

*Bearing in mind* the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons,<sup>310</sup>

*Convinced* that a multilateral, universal and binding agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would contribute to the elimination of the nuclear threat and to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, thereby strengthening international peace and security,

*Conscious* that some steps have been taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and that further steps – in all relevant formats – on nuclear arms control and disarmament can contribute to the improvement of the international climate and the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Recalling* that in paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly<sup>311</sup> it is stated that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and which would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Reaffirming* that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

*Recognizing* that a legally binding prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons is not contrary to but in fact contributes to international efforts for the achievement and maintenance of a world free of nuclear weapons,

*Stressing* that an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, with a specified framework of time,

*Noting with regret* that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 2017 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 72/59 of 4 December 2017,

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

### RESOLUTION 73/75

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/511, para. 24)<sup>312</sup>

### 73/75. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

*The General Assembly,*

*Mindful* of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations, in which it is stipulated that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

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<sup>310</sup> A/51/218, annex.

<sup>311</sup> Resolution S-10/2.

<sup>312</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Georgia, Maldives, and Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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*Recalling* its resolutions [40/151](#) G of 16 December 1985, [41/60](#) D of 3 December 1986, [42/39](#) J of 30 November 1987 and [43/76](#) D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and its resolutions [46/36](#) F of 6 December 1991 and [47/52](#) G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

*Recalling also* its subsequent resolutions on the Regional Centre, the most recent of which is resolution [72/60](#) of 4 December 2017,

*Recalling further* its resolution [71/56](#) of 5 December 2016, in which it recognized the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control,

*Reaffirming* the role of the Regional Centre in promoting disarmament, peace and security at the regional level,

*Welcoming* the continuing and deepening cooperation between the Regional Centre, the African Union and African subregional organizations in the context of the adoption of Agenda 2063 by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, and in particular the objective of silencing the guns in Africa by 2020,

*Welcoming also* the work of the Regional Centre in support of the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>313</sup> in particular Goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions, and target 16.4, which addresses the reduction of illicit arms flows,

*Recalling* the decision taken by the Executive Council of the African Union at its eighth ordinary session, held in Khartoum from 16 to 21 January 2006,<sup>314</sup> in which the Council called upon member States to make voluntary contributions to the Regional Centre to maintain its operations,

*Recalling also* the call by the Secretary-General for continued financial and in-kind support from Member States, which would enable the Regional Centre to discharge its mandate in full and to respond more effectively to requests for assistance from African States,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>315</sup>
2. *Commends* the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa for its sustained support to Member States in implementing disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation activities through seminars and conferences, capacity-building and training, policy and technical expertise, and information and advocacy at the regional and national levels;
3. *Welcomes* the continental dimension of the activities of the Regional Centre in response to the evolving needs of African Member States and the region's new and emerging challenges in the areas of disarmament, peace and security, including maritime security;
4. *Recalls* the undertaking by the Regional Centre to deepen its partnership with the African Union Commission in the context of the Joint United Nations-African Union Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security, signed on 19 April 2017, as well as with African subregional organizations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to facilitate close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular in the areas of disarmament, peace and security;
5. *Welcomes* the contribution of the Regional Centre to continental disarmament, peace and security, in particular its contribution to the implementation of Agenda 2063 adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the objective of silencing the guns in Africa and its master road map of practical steps to silence the guns in Africa by the year 2020, as well as its assistance to the African Commission on Nuclear Energy in its implementation of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba);<sup>316</sup>
6. *Also welcomes* efforts by the Regional Centre to promote the role and representation of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control activities;
7. *Notes with appreciation* the tangible achievements of the Regional Centre and the impact of the assistance that it provides to African States to control small arms and light weapons through capacity-building for national

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<sup>313</sup> See resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>314</sup> [A/60/693](#), annex II, decision EX.CL/Dec.263 (VIII).

<sup>315</sup> [A/73/151](#).

<sup>316</sup> [A/50/426](#), annex.

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commissions on small arms and light weapons, defence and security forces, and United Nations peacekeeping mission personnel, as well as the support that the Centre provided to States in preventing the diversion of such weapons, in particular to non-State armed groups and terrorist groups,<sup>317</sup> and also notes with appreciation the assistance provided by the Centre in the implementation of the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention),<sup>318</sup> which entered into force on 8 March 2017, and its substantive support to the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, in the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials and on security sector reform initiatives, and to East Africa on programmes to control brokering of small arms and light weapons, including the additional assistance provided by the Centre to African Member States in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004 and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction;<sup>319</sup>

8. *Commends* the Regional Centre for the support and assistance that it provided to African States, upon request, on the Arms Trade Treaty,<sup>320</sup> including through the organization of subregional and regional seminars and workshops;

9. *Urges* all States, as well as international, governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to enable the Regional Centre to carry out its programmes and activities and meet the needs of African States;

10. *Urges*, in particular, States members of the African Union to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund for the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, in conformity with the decision taken by the Executive Council of the African Union in Khartoum in January 2006;<sup>314</sup>

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Regional Centre with the support necessary for greater achievements and results;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly”, the sub-item entitled “United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa”.

### RESOLUTION 73/76

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/511, para. 24)<sup>321</sup>

#### **73/76. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, with headquarters in Lima,

*Recalling also* its resolution 72/61 of 4 December 2017 and all previous resolutions on the Regional Centre,

<sup>317</sup> Security Council resolution 2370 (2017).

<sup>318</sup> See A/65/517-S/2010/534, annex.

<sup>319</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.

<sup>320</sup> See resolution 67/234 B.

<sup>321</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Peru (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States).

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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*Recognizing* that the Regional Centre has continued to provide substantive support for the implementation of regional and subregional initiatives and has intensified its contribution to the coordination of United Nations efforts towards peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development, and emphasizing the role of the Centre in providing support for the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>322</sup>

*Reaffirming* the mandate of the Regional Centre to provide, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities of the Member States of the region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>323</sup> and expressing its appreciation for the important assistance provided, upon request, by the Regional Centre to several countries in the region, including through capacity-building and technical assistance activities for the implementation of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control instruments,

*Welcoming* the support provided by the Regional Centre to Member States in the implementation of disarmament and non-proliferation instruments,

*Emphasizing* the need for the Regional Centre to develop and strengthen its activities and programmes in a comprehensive and balanced manner, in accordance with its mandate and in line with the requests for assistance by Member States,

*Welcoming* the ongoing support provided by the Regional Centre to Member States in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,<sup>324</sup>

*Welcoming also* the assistance provided by the Regional Centre to some States, upon request, in the management and securing of national weapons stockpiles and in the identification and destruction of surplus, obsolete or seized weapons and ammunition, as declared by competent national authorities, in particular the establishment of a regional training centre in Port of Spain to manage weapons stockpiles,

*Welcoming further* the initiative of the Regional Centre to continue to conduct activities in line with efforts to promote the equitable representation of women in all decision-making processes with regard to matters related to disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, as encouraged in its resolutions 65/69 of 8 December 2010 and subsequent resolutions, including resolution 71/56 of 5 December 2016,

*Recalling* the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development,<sup>325</sup> referred to in General Assembly resolution 59/78 of 3 December 2004, which is of utmost interest with regard to the role that the Regional Centre plays in promoting the issue in the region in pursuit of its mandate to promote economic and social development related to peace and disarmament,

*Noting* that security, disarmament and development issues have always been recognized as significant topics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first inhabited region in the world to be declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

*Recognizing* the cooperation between the Regional Centre and the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean on strengthening the nuclear-weapon-free zone established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco),<sup>326</sup> as well as its efforts in promoting peace and disarmament education,

*Bearing in mind* the important role of the Regional Centre in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

*Recognizing* the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

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<sup>322</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>323</sup> A/73/127.

<sup>324</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects*, New York, 9–20 July 2001 (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

<sup>325</sup> See A/59/119.

<sup>326</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

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1. *Reiterates its strong support* for the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion of activities of the United Nations at the regional and subregional levels to strengthen peace, disarmament, stability, security and development among its Member States;
2. *Welcomes* the activities carried out in the past year by the Regional Centre, and requests the Centre to continue to take into account the proposals to be submitted by the countries of the region for the implementation of the mandate of the Centre in the areas of peace, disarmament and development and for the promotion of, inter alia, nuclear disarmament, the prevention, combating and eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, ammunition and explosives, the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, transparency and the reduction and prevention of armed violence at the regional and subregional levels;
3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the political support provided by Member States, as well as for the financial contributions made by Member States and international governmental and non-governmental organizations, to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof, and encourages them to continue to make and to increase voluntary contributions;
4. *Invites* all States of the region to continue to take part in the activities of the Regional Centre, proposing items for inclusion in its programme of activities and maximizing the potential of the Centre to meet the current challenges facing the international community with a view to fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations in the areas of peace, disarmament and development;
5. *Recognizes* that the Regional Centre has an important role in the promotion and development of regional and subregional initiatives agreed upon by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, in the relationship between disarmament and development, including the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>322</sup> in the promotion of the participation of women in this field and in strengthening voluntary confidence-building measures among the countries of the region;
6. *Encourages* the Regional Centre to further develop activities in all countries of the region in the important areas of peace, disarmament and development and to provide, upon request and in accordance with its mandate, support to Member States of the region in the national implementation of relevant instruments, inter alia, the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects<sup>324</sup> and the Arms Trade Treaty,<sup>327</sup> as well as in the implementation of the Caribbean 1540 programme on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction;
7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution;
8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly”, the sub-item entitled “United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean”.

### RESOLUTION 73/77

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/511, para. 24)<sup>328</sup>

#### 73/77. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and renamed it the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with headquarters in Kathmandu and with the

<sup>327</sup> See resolution 67/234 B.

<sup>328</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Maldives, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

*Welcoming* the tenth anniversary of the physical operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/52 of 5 December 2007, and the youth-focused outreach activities undertaken in commemoration thereof,

*Recalling* the mandate of the Regional Centre to provide, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>329</sup> and expressing its appreciation to the Regional Centre for its important work in promoting confidence-building measures through the organization of meetings, conferences and workshops in the region, including: national and subregional workshops on the control of small arms and light weapons; the sixteenth United Nations-Republic of Korea Joint Conference on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Issues, held on Jeju Island, Republic of Korea, on 16 and 17 November 2017; the twenty-seventh United Nations Conference on Disarmament Issues, held in Hiroshima, Japan, on 29 and 30 November 2017; a technical and legal assistance project to assist the Philippines in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects<sup>330</sup> and to help to build capacity towards ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty;<sup>331</sup> and a joint project with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in support of regional implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004 in Central Asia and Mongolia,

*Expressing appreciation* for the timely execution by Nepal of its host country commitments for the physical operation of the Regional Centre,

*Welcoming* the work by the Regional Centre in support of the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>332</sup> in particular Goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions, as well as target 16.4, which addresses the reduction of illicit arms flows,

*Welcoming also* the efforts by the Regional Centre to promote the role and representation of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control activities,

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the activities carried out over the past year by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, and invites all States of the region to continue to support the activities of the Regional Centre, including by continuing to take part in them, where possible, and by proposing items for inclusion in the programme of activities of the Centre, in order to contribute to the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament;

2. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Nepal for its cooperation and financial support, which has enabled the Regional Centre to operate from Kathmandu;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat for providing the necessary support with a view to ensuring the smooth operation of the Regional Centre and to enabling the Centre to function effectively;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions, the only resources of the Regional Centre, to strengthen its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

5. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the role of the Regional Centre in the promotion of activities of the United Nations at the regional level to strengthen peace, stability and security among its Member States;

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<sup>329</sup> A/73/126.

<sup>330</sup> Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001 (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

<sup>331</sup> See resolution 67/234 B.

<sup>332</sup> See resolution 70/1.



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6. *Underlines* the importance of the Kathmandu process for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogues;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly”, the sub-item entitled “United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific”.

### RESOLUTION 73/78

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/511, para. 24)<sup>333</sup>

#### **73/78. Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 72/63 of 4 December 2017,

*Recalling also* the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

*Bearing in mind* the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the Central Africa subregion,

*Recalling* that the purpose of the Standing Advisory Committee is to conduct reconstruction and confidence-building activities in Central Africa among its member States, including through confidence-building and arms limitation measures,

*Reaffirming* the importance and relevance of the Standing Advisory Committee as an instrument of preventive diplomacy in the subregional architecture for the promotion of peace and security in Central Africa,

*Bearing in mind* the revitalization of the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee decided upon at the forty-fourth ministerial meeting of the Committee, held in Yaoundé from 29 May to 2 June 2017, with a view to enhancing its contribution to the achievement of the objectives of peace, security and development in Central Africa,

*Noting* the entry into force of the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention) on 8 March 2017<sup>334</sup> and the third Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty, held in Geneva from 11 to 15 September 2017,

*Convinced* that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries,

*Welcoming* the Libreville Declaration on the Adoption and Implementation of the Regional Strategy and Plan of Action for Combating Terrorism and the Trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons in Central Africa, adopted by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee on 26 November 2015 at their forty-first ministerial meeting, held in Libreville from 23 to 27 November 2015,<sup>335</sup>

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<sup>333</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Cameroon, and the Congo (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Economic Community of Central African States).

<sup>334</sup> See A/65/517-S/2010/534, annex.

<sup>335</sup> See A/70/682-S/2016/39, annex 3.

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*Welcoming also* the adoption, at the forty-fourth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee, of the plan of action and schedule for the implementation of the regional strategy under the auspices of the Economic Community of Central African States,

*Considering* the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken on the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international peace and security,

*Convinced* that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

*Recalling* the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa,<sup>336</sup> the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa<sup>337</sup> and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,<sup>338</sup>

*Bearing in mind* resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998, respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,<sup>339</sup>

*Welcoming* the successful conclusion of the Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea, held in Yaoundé on 24 and 25 June 2013, the inauguration in Yaoundé, on 11 September 2014, of the Interregional Coordination Centre for Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea, the effective commencement of its activities with the installation of its statutory officials in Yaoundé on 22 February 2017, the inauguration of new offices of the Regional Centre for Maritime Security in Central Africa in Pointe Noire, Congo, on 20 October 2014, and the launch of the Multinational Maritime Coordination Centre in Cotonou, Benin, in March 2015, and also the conclusion of the African Union Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa, held in Lomé on 15 October 2016,

*Recalling* its resolution 69/314 of 30 July 2015, the first such resolution on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife, and also its resolutions 70/301 of 9 September 2016 and 71/326 of 11 September 2017, and welcoming the outcome of the high-level meetings on poaching and illicit wildlife trafficking, hosted by Gabon and Germany and held on the margins of the high-level segments of the sixty-eighth and sixty-ninth sessions of the General Assembly,

*Emphasizing* the need to strengthen the capacity for early warning, conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa, and taking note in this regard of the concrete conflict prevention initiatives facilitated by the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat,

*Welcoming* the close cooperation established between the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa and the Economic Community of Central African States, as well as the signing of the framework of cooperation agreement between the two entities on 14 June 2016,

*Bearing in mind* the increased focus of the Standing Advisory Committee on human security questions, such as trafficking in persons, especially women and children, as an important consideration for subregional peace, stability and conflict prevention, and welcoming the adoption by the General Assembly at its seventy-second session of the political declaration on the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons<sup>340</sup> following the high-level meeting of the Assembly on the appraisal of the Global Plan of Action,

*Expressing continued concern* about the fragile situation in the Central African Republic and in the neighbouring countries affected, and noting the importance of promoting the political process through the implementation of the African Initiative for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic in order to make tangible progress, in particular with regard to the protection of civilians, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants, and strengthening the authority of the State,

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<sup>336</sup> A/50/474, annex I.

<sup>337</sup> A/53/258-S/1998/763, annex II, appendix I.

<sup>338</sup> A/53/868-S/1999/303, annex II.

<sup>339</sup> A/52/871-S/1998/318.

<sup>340</sup> Resolution 72/1.

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*Taking note* of the Kigali Declaration on the Situation in the Central African Republic,<sup>341</sup> highlighting the regional security implications of the situation in the Central African Republic, and reiterating the commitment of States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to supporting the implementation of the African Union road map for peace and reconciliation, including through financial contributions, and their cooperation to fight more effectively the risks of instability in the country,

*Taking note also* of the Brazzaville Declaration on Confidence-Building Measures,<sup>342</sup> and expressing concern that the issue of mercenaries has become a major security concern, undermining trust and creating tensions among States members of the Standing Advisory Committee,

*Expressing concern* about the increasing impact of cross-border criminality, in particular the activities of the Lord's Resistance Army, the terrorist attacks by Boko Haram in the Lake Chad basin region and incidents of piracy in the Gulf of Guinea, and the issue of transhumance and its cross-border security implications on peace, security and development in Central Africa,

*Welcoming* the progress made by the States members of the Lake Chad Basin Commission and Benin in making the Multinational Joint Task Force operational in order to combat effectively the threat posed by the Boko Haram terrorist group to the Lake Chad basin region,

*Welcoming also* the adoption by the Lake Chad Basin Commission, with the support of the African Union, of the Regional Stabilization, Recovery and Resilience Strategy for Areas Affected by Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin Region in Abuja on 30 August 2018,

*Bearing in mind* Security Council resolution 2349 (2017) of 31 March 2017, in which the Council called for, inter alia, increased assistance to the countries of the region,

*Considering* the urgent need to prevent the possible movement of illicit weapons, mercenaries and combatants involved in conflicts in the Sahel and in neighbouring countries in the Central African subregion,

1. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further sustainable peace, stability and development in the subregion;

2. *Welcomes and encourages* the initiative of the States members of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa to further develop collaboration and synergies with the Economic Community of Central African States, in particular the Commission for Defence and Security, including by means of closed meetings, with a view to promoting the implementation of the regional strategy for combating terrorism and the trafficking in small arms and light weapons in Central Africa adopted by the Committee;

3. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Standing Advisory Committee of the Kigali Declaration on the Reform of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa,<sup>343</sup> and urges the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and the international community to provide technical and financial support to accelerate the reform of the Council;

4. *Also welcomes* efforts under way by the Standing Advisory Committee and its secretariat to implement the communication strategy adopted at the forty-fifth ministerial meeting of the Committee, held in Kigali from 4 to 8 December 2017, and encourages Member States and other partners to support initiatives aimed at increasing the visibility of the Committee, including among the populations of the subregion, in cooperation with civil society;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of disarmament and arms control programmes in Central Africa carried out by the States of the subregion with the support of the United Nations, the African Union and other international partners;

6. *Encourages* Member States to provide assistance to those States members of the Standing Advisory Committee that have ratified the Arms Trade Treaty,<sup>344</sup> and encourages those that have not yet done so to ratify the Treaty;

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<sup>341</sup> A/73/224, annex I.

<sup>342</sup> Ibid., annex IV.

<sup>343</sup> Ibid., annex II.

<sup>344</sup> See resolution 67/234 B.

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7. *Encourages* States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and other interested States to provide financial support for the implementation of the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention),<sup>334</sup> and encourages signatories that have not yet done so to ratify the Convention;

8. *Welcomes* the holding of the first Conference of States Parties to the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly, in Yaoundé from 11 to 13 June 2018, in accordance with article 34, paragraph 3, of the Kinshasa Convention;

9. *Encourages* Member States to assist States parties to the Kinshasa Convention with coordination activities for the control of small arms and light weapons at the regional and national levels, including funding thereof, as expeditiously as possible;

10. *Reaffirms its support* for the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy<sup>345</sup> and its four pillars, which constitute an ongoing effort, and calls upon Member States, the United Nations and other appropriate international, regional and subregional organizations to step up their efforts to implement the Strategy in an integrated and balanced manner and in all aspects;

11. *Urges* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to implement the Libreville Declaration on the Adoption and Implementation of the Regional Strategy and Plan of Action for Combating Terrorism and the Trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons in Central Africa,<sup>335</sup> and requests the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning counter-terrorism and the international community to support those measures;

12. *Urges* the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States to implement the integrated strategy and plan of action for combating terrorism and the trafficking in small arms and light weapons in Central Africa, and requests the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa to support the efforts of States members of the Economic Community of Central African States in this regard;

13. *Welcomes* the joint summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States and the Economic Community of Central African States, in coordination with the African Union Commission, on peace, security, stability and the fight against terrorism and violent extremism, held in Lomé on 30 July 2018, and also welcomes the Lomé Declaration on Peace, Security, Stability and the Fight against Terrorism and Violent Extremism adopted at that summit;

14. *Encourages* the Economic Community of Central African States and the Economic Community of West African States to work together towards the implementation of the Lomé Declaration;

15. *Encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to carry out the programmes of activities adopted at their ministerial meetings, and requests the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa to continue to provide support;

16. *Appeals* to the international community to support the efforts undertaken by the States concerned to implement disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes, and urges the States concerned to ensure that such programmes take into consideration the needs of women and children associated with former combatants;

17. *Welcomes* the efforts of Cameroon and the Congo in providing assistance to the Interregional Coordination Centre for Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea and the Regional Centre for Maritime Security in Central Africa, respectively, and urges other member States to honour their financial commitments in order to ensure the predictable and sustainable operation of the two Centres;

18. *Encourages* Member States to continue to implement the outcomes of the Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea by operationalizing the Interregional Coordination Centre for Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea and activities of the Regional Centre for Maritime Security in Central Africa, and also encourages the implementation of the Charter on Maritime Security and Safety

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<sup>345</sup> Resolution [60/288](#).

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and Development in Africa adopted at the African Union Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa;

19. *Calls upon* Member States and subregional bodies to take immediate concerted action to counter the phenomenon of poaching and trafficking in wildlife and natural resources, including through the implementation of the provisions of its resolutions [69/314](#), [70/301](#) and [71/326](#);

20. *Welcomes* the determination of the Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of Central African States and the Economic Community of West African States to initiate common policies and joint programmes on the management of transhumance, sustainable water resources and the modernization of agriculture and livestock farming, and to identify measures for the prevention and peaceful management of conflicts between herders and farmers, as contained in the Lomé Declaration;

21. *Expresses its full support* for the efforts of the Economic Community of Central African States, the African Union and the United Nations in the Central African Republic, and calls upon the international community to support these efforts;

22. *Encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to pursue their discussions on concrete conflict prevention initiatives, and requests in this regard the assistance of the Secretary-General;

23. *Requests* the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, in collaboration with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, to facilitate the efforts undertaken by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, in particular for their execution of the Implementation Plan for the Kinshasa Convention;<sup>346</sup>

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, with the support of the international community, to continue to assist the countries of Central Africa in tackling the issues of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide their full assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

26. *Welcomes* the increased contributions made by several Member States to the trust fund of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, reminds the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee of the commitments that they undertook on the adoption of the Declaration on the Trust Fund of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa on 8 May 2009<sup>347</sup> and the Bangui Declaration on 10 June 2016,<sup>348</sup> and invites those States members of the Committee that have not already done so to contribute to the trust fund;

27. *Urges* other Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee effectively through voluntary contributions to the trust fund;

28. *Urges* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, in accordance with Security Council resolution [1325 \(2000\)](#) of 31 October 2000, to strengthen the gender component of the various meetings of the Committee relating to disarmament and international security, in line with the Sao Tome Declaration on the Participation of Women in the Statutory Meetings of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, adopted on 1 December 2016,<sup>349</sup> in which States members were invited to increase the representation of women in delegations participating in the statutory meetings of the Committee;

29. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support to the Standing Advisory Committee, expresses appreciation for the role played by the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, welcomes the strengthening of the Office, and strongly encourages the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and international partners to support the work of the Office;

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<sup>346</sup> See [A/65/717-S/2011/53](#), annex.

<sup>347</sup> [A/64/85-S/2009/288](#), annex I.

<sup>348</sup> [A/71/293](#), annex I.

<sup>349</sup> [A/72/363](#), annex II.



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30. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Standing Advisory Committee towards addressing cross-border security threats in Central Africa, including activities of Boko Haram and the Lord's Resistance Army, and acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea, the issue of transhumance and its cross-border security implications, as well as the fallout from the situation in the Central African Republic, and also welcomes the role of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa in coordinating those efforts, working closely with the Economic Community of Central African States, the African Union and all relevant regional and international partners;

31. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support for the revitalization of the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee, and requests him to continue to provide the assistance needed to ensure the success of its regular biannual meetings;

32. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

33. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

### RESOLUTION 73/79

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/511, para. 24)<sup>350</sup>

#### 73/79. United Nations Disarmament Information Programme

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its decision taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament, by which the World Disarmament Campaign was launched,<sup>351</sup>

*Bearing in mind* its resolution 47/53 D of 9 December 1992, in which it decided, inter alia, that the World Disarmament Campaign should be known thereafter as the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme and the World Disarmament Campaign voluntary trust fund as the voluntary trust fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme,

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/46 A of 10 December 1996, 53/78 E of 4 December 1998, 55/34 A of 20 November 2000, 57/90 of 22 November 2002, 59/103 of 3 December 2004, 61/95 of 6 December 2006, 63/81 of 2 December 2008, 65/81 of 8 December 2010, 67/67 of 3 December 2012, 69/71 of 2 December 2014 and 71/74 of 5 December 2016,

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>352</sup>

1. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts to make effective use of the limited resources available to him in disseminating, as widely as possible, information on arms control and disarmament to Governments, the media, non-governmental organizations, educational communities and research institutes and in carrying out a seminar and conference programme;

2. *Stresses* the importance of the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme as a significant instrument in enabling all Member States to participate fully in the deliberations and negotiations on disarmament in the various United Nations bodies, in assisting them in complying with treaties, as required, and in contributing to agreed mechanisms for transparency;

<sup>350</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Canada, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Germany, Guatemala, Indonesia, Lebanon, Mexico, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Samoa, Spain, Thailand and Uruguay.

<sup>351</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings*, 1st meeting, paras. 110–111.

<sup>352</sup> A/73/120.



## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

3. *Commends with satisfaction* the launch of *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook* for 2016 and 2017, as well as its online editions, by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the cooperation of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and its information centres in pursuit of the objectives of the Programme;

5. *Recommends* that the Programme continue to inform, educate and generate public understanding of the importance of multilateral action and support for it, including action by the United Nations and the Conference on Disarmament, in the field of arms control and disarmament, in a factual, balanced and objective manner, and that it focus its efforts:

(a) To continue to publish *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, the flagship publication of the Office for Disarmament Affairs, in all official languages, as well as its *Occasional Papers*, *Study Series* and other ad hoc information materials in accordance with the current practice;

(b) To continue to update the disarmament website as a part of the United Nations website in as many official languages as feasible;

(c) To promote the use of the Programme as a means to provide information related to progress in the implementation of nuclear disarmament measures;

(d) To continue to intensify United Nations interaction with the public, principally non-governmental organizations and research institutes, to help to further an informed debate on topical issues of arms limitation, disarmament and security;

(e) To continue to organize discussions on topics of interest in the field of arms limitation and disarmament with a view to broadening understanding and facilitating an exchange of views and information among Member States and civil society;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of all support extended to the voluntary trust fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, and once again invites all Member States to make further contributions to the fund with a view to sustaining a strong outreach programme;

7. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on disarmament and non-proliferation education,<sup>353</sup> which reviews the implementation of the recommendations made in the 2002 study on disarmament and non-proliferation education,<sup>354</sup>

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report covering both the implementation of the activities of the Programme by the United Nations system during the previous two years and the activities of the Programme contemplated by the system for the following two years;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly”, the sub-item entitled “United Nations Disarmament Information Programme”.

### RESOLUTION 73/80

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/511, para. 24)<sup>355</sup>

#### 73/80. United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 60/83 of 8 December 2005, 61/90 of 6 December 2006, 62/50 of 5 December 2007, 63/76 of 2 December 2008, 64/58 of 2 December 2009, 65/78 of 8 December 2010, 66/53 of 2 December 2011, 67/63 of 3 December 2012, 68/57 of 5 December 2013, 69/70 of 2 December 2014, 70/61 of 7 December

<sup>353</sup> A/73/119.

<sup>354</sup> A/57/124.

<sup>355</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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2015, [71/80](#) of 5 December 2016 and [72/64](#) of 4 December 2017 regarding the maintenance and revitalization of the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament,

*Recalling also* the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa,<sup>356</sup> the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific<sup>357</sup> and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,<sup>358</sup>

*Reaffirming* its decision, taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, to establish the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the purpose of which is to inform, educate and generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms control and disarmament,

*Bearing in mind* its resolutions [40/151](#) G of 16 December 1985, [41/60](#) J of 3 December 1986, [42/39](#) D of 30 November 1987 and [44/117](#) F of 15 December 1989 on the regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,

*Recalling* that the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment by the General Assembly of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean was celebrated in 2016 and in 2017,

*Recognizing* that the changes that have taken place in the world have created new opportunities and posed new challenges for the pursuit of disarmament, and bearing in mind in this regard that the regional centres for peace and disarmament can contribute substantially to understanding and cooperation among States in each particular region in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

*Noting* that, in paragraph 240 of the Final Document of the Eighteenth Midterm Ministerial Meeting of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Baku from 3 to 6 April 2018, the Ministers emphasized the importance of United Nations activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament,

1. *Reiterates* the importance of United Nations activities at the regional level to advance disarmament and to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and further strengthening of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament;

2. *Commends* the three regional centres for peace and disarmament for their sustained support provided to Member States for over 30 years in implementing disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation activities through seminars and conferences, capacity-building and training, policy and technical expertise, and information and advocacy at the global, regional and national levels;

3. *Reaffirms* that, in order to achieve positive results, it is useful for the three regional centres to carry out dissemination and educational programmes that promote regional peace and security and that are aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect to peace and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

4. *Appeals* to Member States in each region that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions in order to strengthen their activities and initiatives;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of the activities of the Regional Disarmament Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all support necessary, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

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<sup>356</sup> [A/73/151](#).

<sup>357</sup> [A/73/126](#).

<sup>358</sup> [A/73/127](#).

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly”, the sub-item entitled “United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament”.

### RESOLUTION 73/81

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/512, para. 12)<sup>359</sup>

#### 73/81. Report of the Conference on Disarmament

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Conference on Disarmament,<sup>360</sup>

*Convinced* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

*Recognizing* the addresses of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as well as those of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials in the Conference on Disarmament, and referring to their various expressions of support for and concern about the endeavours of the Conference and calls for the Conference to commence negotiations without delay to advance disarmament goals through the adoption of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work,

*Recognizing also* the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues, and emphasizing the importance of effective multilateralism in the context of the changing international climate,

*Noting with renewed concern* that, despite the intensive efforts by States members and Presidents of the Conference on Disarmament at its 2018 session to reach consensus on a programme of work on the basis of relevant proposals and suggestions, the Conference did not succeed in commencing its substantive work by means of negotiations, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 72/65 of 4 December 2017, or agree to a programme of work, although the Conference did hold substantive discussions in the framework of subsidiary bodies established for that purpose,

*Recalling*, in this respect, that the Conference on Disarmament has a number of priority issues for negotiation to achieve disarmament goals,

*Welcoming* the overwhelming call for greater flexibility with respect to implementing the substantive work of the Conference on Disarmament on the basis of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work,

*Appreciating* the continued cooperation among the States members of the Conference on Disarmament as well as among the successive Presidents of the Conference,

*Noting with appreciation* the significant contributions made at the 2018 session to promote substantive discussions on issues on the agenda, notably the work of the five subsidiary bodies established pursuant to the decision adopted on 16 February 2018,<sup>361</sup> and the adoption by the Conference on Disarmament of reports of four of the subsidiary bodies, and noting the discussions on the functioning of the Conference, as well as the discussions held on other issues that could also be relevant to the current international security environment,

*Acknowledging* the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, as a stand-alone, autonomous institution, and the contribution that its research makes,

*Recognizing* the importance of engagement between civil society and the Conference on Disarmament according to decisions taken by the Conference,

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<sup>359</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Turkey.

<sup>360</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/73/27).*

<sup>361</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 13.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;
2. *Appreciates* the strong support expressed for the Conference on Disarmament at its 2018 session by Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials, while also acknowledging their concern about its ongoing impasse, and takes into account their calls for greater flexibility with respect to commencing the substantive work of the Conference without further delay;
3. *Calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to further intensify consultations and to explore possibilities for overcoming its ongoing deadlock of two decades by adopting and implementing a balanced and comprehensive programme of work at the earliest possible date during its 2019 session, bearing in mind the decision on the programme of work adopted by the Conference on 29 May 2009,<sup>362</sup> as well as other relevant present, past and future proposals;
4. *Takes note with appreciation* of the decision of the Conference on Disarmament on the establishment of subsidiary bodies on agenda items 1 to 4, and one on agenda items 5, 6 and 7,<sup>361</sup> which also considered emerging and other issues relevant to substantive work of the Conference, for the 2018 session, and welcomes the adoption by the Conference of substantive reports of four of the subsidiary bodies, as a basis for substantive work, including negotiations, at its 2019 session;
5. *Encourages* the current President of the Conference on Disarmament and the incoming President of the Conference to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, to make recommendations, taking into account all relevant proposals, past, present and future, including those submitted as documents of the Conference, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations;
6. *Requests* the current President of the Conference on Disarmament and successive Presidents to cooperate with the States members of the Conference in the effort to guide the Conference to the early commencement of its substantive work, including negotiations, at its 2019 session;
7. *Recognizes* the importance of continuing consultations in 2019 on the question of the expansion of the membership of the Conference on Disarmament;
8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure and to strengthen, if needed, the provision to the Conference on Disarmament of all necessary administrative, substantive and conference support services;
9. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on its work;
10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session”, the sub-item entitled “Report of the Conference on Disarmament”.

### RESOLUTION 73/82

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/512, para. 12)<sup>363</sup>

#### **73/82. Report of the Disarmament Commission**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Disarmament Commission,<sup>364</sup>

*Recalling* its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of 9 December 1997, 53/79 A of 4 December 1998, 54/56 A of 1 December 1999, 55/35 C of 20 November 2000,

<sup>362</sup> Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/64/27)*, para. 18.

<sup>363</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Australia (on behalf of the members of the Bureau of the Disarmament Commission).

<sup>364</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/73/42)*.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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56/26 A of 29 November 2001, 57/95 of 22 November 2002, 58/67 of 8 December 2003, 59/105 of 3 December 2004, 60/91 of 8 December 2005, 61/98 of 6 December 2006, 62/54 of 5 December 2007, 63/83 of 2 December 2008, 64/65 of 2 December 2009, 65/86 of 8 December 2010, 66/60 of 2 December 2011, 67/71 of 3 December 2012, 68/63 of 5 December 2013, 69/77 of 2 December 2014, 70/68 of 7 December 2015, 71/82 of 5 December 2016 and 72/66 of 4 December 2017,

*Considering* the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in promoting the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

*Recalling in particular* General Assembly resolution 45/62 B of 4 December 1990, in which it noted with satisfaction the adoption by consensus of a set of “Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission”,<sup>365</sup> Assembly decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998 concerning the efficient functioning of the Commission and Assembly resolution 61/98, which contains additional measures for improving the effectiveness of the methods of work of the Commission,

*Reaffirming* the mandate of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative subsidiary body of the General Assembly that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues, and recalling that the Commission shall make every effort to ensure that, insofar as possible, decisions on substantive issues be adopted by consensus, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,<sup>366</sup>

*Emphasizing once again* the important place of the Disarmament Commission within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;<sup>364</sup>
2. *Reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;
3. *Emphasizes* the need for a focused and results-oriented discussion of the items on the agenda of the Disarmament Commission;
4. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,<sup>366</sup> and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982 and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into account the adopted “Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission”,<sup>365</sup>
5. *Welcomes* the fact that, in accordance with General Assembly decision 52/492, at its 368th meeting, on 21 February 2018, the Disarmament Commission adopted the provisional agenda for its substantive session of 2018, and that the Commission decided that the agenda for its substantive session of 2018 should serve for the period 2018–2020;
6. *Recommends* that the Disarmament Commission continue its consideration of the following items at its substantive session of 2019:
  - (a) Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;
  - (b) Preparation of recommendations to promote the practical implementation of transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities with the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space, in accordance with the recommendations set out in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures in Outer Space Activities;<sup>367</sup>

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<sup>365</sup> Resolution 44/119 C, annex.

<sup>366</sup> Resolution S-10/2.

<sup>367</sup> A/68/189.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

7. *Notes* that the Disarmament Commission encourages the Chairs of its working groups to continue informal consultations during the intersessional period on the agenda item allocated to each of the groups;

8. *Encourages* the Disarmament Commission to invite, as appropriate, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research to prepare background papers on the items on its agenda and, if need be, other disarmament experts to present their views, as provided for in paragraph 3 (e) of resolution 61/98, upon the invitation of the Chair and with the prior approval of the Commission;

9. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2019, namely from 8 to 29 April, and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, and stresses that the report of the Commission should contain a summary by the Chair of the proceedings to reflect different views or positions if no agreement can be reached on the specific agenda item deliberated on, as provided for in paragraph 3.4 of the adopted “Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission”;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the resources and services necessary, including verbatim records, to that end, and also requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament on its 2018 session,<sup>368</sup> together with all the official records of the seventy-third session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

11. *Invites* Member States to submit their views and proposals on the matter early enough to enable practical consultations among them prior to the beginning of the substantive session of 2019 of the Disarmament Commission, with a view to facilitating its constructive outcome, and in this regard encourages the Chair-designate, upon nomination, to commence consultations and preparations for the substantive session of 2019 in a timely manner;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session”, the sub-item entitled “Report of the Disarmament Commission”.

### RESOLUTION 73/83

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/513, para. 10),<sup>369</sup> by a recorded vote of 158 to 6, with 21 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

<sup>368</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/73/27).*

<sup>369</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the League of Arab States), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and State of Palestine.



## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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*Against:* Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Australia, Belgium, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Czechia, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, India, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Panama, Poland, Romania, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

### 73/83. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* its relevant resolutions, the latest of which is resolution [72/67](#) of 4 December 2017,

*Taking note* of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the latest of which is resolution GC(62)/RES/12, adopted on 20 September 2018,

*Cognizant* that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region of the Middle East would pose a serious threat to international peace and security,

*Mindful* of the immediate need for placing all nuclear facilities in the region of the Middle East under full-scope safeguards of the Agency,

*Recalling* the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,<sup>370</sup> in which the Conference urged universal adherence to the Treaty on the Non Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons<sup>371</sup> as an urgent priority and called upon all States not yet parties to the Treaty to accede to it at the earliest date, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities,

*Recognizing with satisfaction* that, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>372</sup> the Conference undertook to make determined efforts towards the achievement of the goal of universality of the Treaty, called upon those remaining States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it, thereby accepting an international legally binding commitment not to acquire nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices and to accept Agency safeguards on all their nuclear activities, and underlined the necessity of universal adherence to the Treaty and of strict compliance by all parties with their obligations under the Treaty,

*Recalling* the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on 11 May 1995,<sup>370</sup> in which the Conference noted with concern the continued existence in the Middle East of unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty, and called upon all States in the Middle East that had not yet done so, without exception, to accede to the Treaty as soon as possible and to place all their nuclear facilities under full-scope Agency safeguards,

*Acknowledging* that, in the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>373</sup> the Conference emphasized the importance of a process leading to full implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East and decided, inter alia, that the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the co-sponsors of the 1995 resolution, in consultation with the States of the region, would convene a conference in 2012, to be attended by all States of the Middle East, on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at by the States of the region, and with the full support and engagement of the nuclear-weapon States,

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<sup>370</sup> See 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)/Corr.2), annex.

<sup>371</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 729, No. 10485.

<sup>372</sup> 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II), NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Part III) and NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Part IV)).

<sup>373</sup> 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I), NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. II) and NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. III)).

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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*Expressing regret and concern* that the conference was not convened in 2012 as mandated and that little progress has been achieved towards the implementation of the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,

*Noting*, in this context, the relevant resolutions of the League of Arab States aiming at the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>374</sup>

*Recalling* that Israel remains the only State in the Middle East that has not yet become a party to the Treaty,

*Concerned* about the threats posed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons to the security and stability of the Middle East region,

*Stressing* the importance of taking confidence-building measures, in particular the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, in order to enhance peace and security in the region and to consolidate the global non-proliferation regime,

*Emphasizing* the need for all parties directly concerned to seriously consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and, as a means of promoting this objective, inviting the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty and, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under Agency safeguards,

*Noting* that 184 States have signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,<sup>375</sup> including a number of States in the region,

1. *Recalls* the conclusions on the Middle East of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>376</sup> and calls for the speedy and full implementation of the commitments contained therein;

2. *Stresses* that the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty<sup>370</sup> is an essential element of the outcome of the 1995 Conference and of the basis on which the Treaty was indefinitely extended without a vote in 1995;

3. *Reiterates* that the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty remains valid until its goals and objectives are achieved;

4. *Calls for* immediate steps towards the full implementation of that resolution;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of Israel's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons<sup>371</sup> and placement of all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, in realizing the goal of universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East;

6. *Calls upon* that State to accede to the Treaty without further delay, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons, to renounce possession of nuclear weapons and to place all its unsafeguarded nuclear facilities under full-scope Agency safeguards as an important confidence-building measure among all States of the region and as a step towards enhancing peace and security;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

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<sup>374</sup> A/73/182 (Part II).

<sup>375</sup> See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

<sup>376</sup> 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions, sect. IV.

RESOLUTION 73/84

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/514, para. 8)<sup>377</sup>

**73/84. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 72/68 of 4 December 2017,

*Recalling with satisfaction* the adoption and entry into force of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects<sup>378</sup> and its amended article 1,<sup>379</sup> the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I),<sup>378</sup> the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)<sup>378</sup> and its amended version,<sup>380</sup> the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III),<sup>378</sup> the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV)<sup>381</sup> and the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V),<sup>382</sup>

*Recalling* the results of the Fifth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, held in Geneva from 12 to 16 December 2016,

*Welcoming* the results of the 2017 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, held in Geneva from 22 to 24 November 2017,

*Welcoming also* the results of the Nineteenth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, held in Geneva on 21 November 2017,

*Welcoming further* the results of the Eleventh Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V, held in Geneva on 20 November 2017,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the Meeting of the Group of Experts of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, the Meeting of Experts of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V and the two sessions of the Group of Governmental Experts related to emerging technologies in the area of lethal autonomous weapons systems of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention were held in 2018, and anticipating that the issue of non-payment will be addressed in order to deliver adequate and timely funding, enabling a positive financial situation that will allow meetings to be held next year,

*Recalling* the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and welcoming the particular efforts of various international, non-governmental and other organizations in raising awareness of the humanitarian consequences of various categories of conventional weapons which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the perspectives of women, men, boys and girls in considering the issues addressed by the Convention and its Protocols,

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be

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<sup>377</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

<sup>378</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1342, No. 22495.

<sup>379</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2260, No. 22495.

<sup>380</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2048, No. 22495.

<sup>381</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2024, No. 22495.

<sup>382</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2399, No. 22495.

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Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects<sup>378</sup> and the Protocols thereto, as amended, with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to these instruments at an early date and so as to ultimately achieve their universality;

2. *Calls upon* all High Contracting Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to express their consent to be bound by the Protocols to the Convention and the amendment extending the scope of the Convention and the Protocols thereto to include armed conflicts of a non-international character;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the universalization of the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V);<sup>382</sup>

4. *Welcomes* additional ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to the Convention, as well as consents to be bound by the Protocols thereto;

5. *Acknowledges* the continued efforts of the Secretary-General, as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and of the respective office holders of the conferences of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, Protocol V and Amended Protocol II, on behalf of the High Contracting Parties, to achieve the goal of universality;

6. *Recalls* the following decisions by the Fifth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention:

(a) To establish an open-ended Group of Governmental Experts related to emerging technologies in the area of lethal autonomous weapons systems in the context of the objectives and purposes of the Convention, adhering to the agreed recommendations contained in document [CCW/CONF.V/2](#), and to submit a report to the 2017 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention consistent with those recommendations;

(b) To add to the agenda of the next Meeting of the High Contracting Parties in 2017 the item “Protocol III”;

(c) To add to the agenda of the next Meeting of the High Contracting Parties in 2017 the item “Mines other than anti-personnel mines”;

(d) To add to the agenda of the next Meeting of the High Contracting Parties in 2017 the item for informal discussion “Consideration of how developments in the field of science and technology relevant to the Convention may be addressed under the Convention”;

(e) To invite the Chair-elect to conduct consultations with a view to including on the agenda of the 2017 annual Meeting of the High Contracting Parties the item “Strengthening the respect for international humanitarian law and addressing, in the context and objectives of the Convention and its annexed Protocols, the challenges presented by the use of conventional weapons in armed conflicts and their impact on civilians, particularly in areas where there are concentrations of civilians”;

(f) To include on the agenda of the annual Meetings of the High Contracting Parties the item “Financial issues related to the Convention and its annexed Protocols” and to consider at the next such meeting efficiency and cost-saving measures and a report to be prepared by the Chair-elect;

(g) To retain the practice of keeping summary records only for the final sessions of the future Review Conferences, the meetings of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, and the Conferences of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II and Protocol V;

(h) To continue the Sponsorship Programme;

7. *Also recalls* the following decisions by the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention in 2017:

(a) To call for a 10-day meeting, to be held in Geneva in 2018, of the Group of Governmental Experts related to emerging technologies in the area of lethal autonomous weapons systems in the context of the objectives and purposes of the Convention;

(b) To call for the universalization and full implementation of Protocol III on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons,<sup>378</sup> given the Protocol’s importance, and to retain the agenda item “Protocol III”;

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(c) To request the Chair-elect to hold an informal open consultation on how best to address the continuing differences of views on “Mines other than anti-personnel mines” and to report to the High Contracting Parties in 2018;

(d) To place on the agenda of its next meeting the item “Emerging issues in the context of the objectives and purposes of the Convention” and to invite the High Contracting Parties to submit, no later than six weeks in advance of that meeting, working papers on issues they intend to raise;

(e) To keep under regular review the implementation of the financial measures that were agreed upon, in the light of the report of the Chair, to improve the situation of the Convention;

(f) To request the Chair-elect to identify and report to the High Contracting Parties in 2018 any further measures that could be considered to improve the stability of the Secretariat’s support to the Convention;

8. *Calls upon* all High Contracting Parties to ensure full and prompt compliance with their financial obligations under the Convention and its annexed Protocols;

9. *Welcomes* the adoption by consensus of the financial measures by all High Contracting Parties at the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties in 2017 in response to the call to explore options to improve the financial situation and ways to ensure financial stability for the operation of the Convention and its annexed Protocols, and also welcomes the request to keep the measures under review in order to ensure the financial sustainability and the adequate and timely funding of the Convention;

10. *Also welcomes* the commitment by the High Contracting Parties to continue to contribute to the further development of international humanitarian law, and, in this context, to keep under review both the development of new weapons and uses of weapons, which may have indiscriminate effects or cause unnecessary suffering;

11. *Further welcomes* the commitment of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V to the effective and efficient implementation of the Protocol and the implementation of the decisions of the First and Second Conferences of the High Contracting Parties to the Protocol establishing a comprehensive framework for the exchange of information and cooperation;

12. *Notes* that, in conformity with article 8 of the Convention, conferences may be convened to examine amendments to the Convention or to any of the Protocols thereto, to examine additional protocols concerning other categories of conventional weapons not covered by existing Protocols or to review the scope and application of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to examine any proposed amendments or additional protocols;

13. *Also notes* the efforts of the Chair to find, as requested by the High Contracting Parties, a stable basis for the Implementation Support Unit within the Geneva Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, which was established following a decision by the 2009 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, and recalls the decision of the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties in 2017 requesting the Chair-elect to identify and report to the High Contracting Parties in 2018 any further measures that could be considered in order to improve the stability of the Secretariat’s support to the Convention without prejudice to the outcome of the efforts of the 2018 Chair;

14. *Underlines* the vital role of the full and equal participation of women in decision-making and implementation of the Convention;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the assistance necessary and to provide such services as may be required for the annual conferences and expert meetings of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention and of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II and Protocol V, as well as for any continuation of the work after the meetings;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform the General Assembly periodically, by electronic means, of ratifications and acceptances of and accessions to the Convention, its amended article 1<sup>379</sup> and the Protocols;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects”.

### RESOLUTION 73/85

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/515, para. 7),<sup>383</sup> by a recorded vote of 181 to none, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Israel, United States of America

#### 73/85. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 72/69 of 4 December 2017,

*Reaffirming* the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in strengthening and promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region,

*Welcoming* the efforts deployed by the Euro-Mediterranean countries to strengthen their cooperation in combating terrorism, in particular through the adoption of the Euro-Mediterranean Code of Conduct on Countering Terrorism by the Euro-Mediterranean Summit, held in Barcelona, Spain, on 27 and 28 November 2005,

*Bearing in mind* all the previous declarations and commitments, as well as all the initiatives taken by the riparian countries at the recent summits, ministerial meetings and various forums concerning the question of the Mediterranean region,

*Recalling*, in this regard, the adoption on 13 July 2008 of the Joint Declaration of the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean, which launched a reinforced partnership, named the "Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean", and the common political will to revive efforts to transform the Mediterranean into an area of peace, democracy, cooperation and prosperity,

*Welcoming* the entry into force of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)<sup>384</sup> as a contribution to the strengthening of peace and security both regionally and internationally,

*Recognizing* the indivisible character of security in the Mediterranean and that the enhancement of cooperation among Mediterranean countries with a view to promoting the economic and social development of all peoples of the region will contribute significantly to stability, peace and security in the region,

<sup>383</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Austria, Central African Republic, Cyprus, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Ireland, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

<sup>384</sup> A/50/426, annex.



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*Recognizing also* the efforts made so far and the determination of the Mediterranean countries to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations with a view to resolving the problems existing in the Mediterranean region and to eliminating the causes of tension and the consequent threat to peace and security, as well as their growing awareness of the need for further joint efforts to strengthen economic, social, cultural and environmental cooperation in the region,

*Recognizing further* that prospects for closer Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in all spheres can be enhanced by positive developments worldwide, in particular in Europe, in the Maghreb and in the Middle East,

*Reaffirming* the responsibility of all States to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the Mediterranean region and their commitment to respecting the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as well as the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,<sup>385</sup>

*Noting* the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

*Expressing concern* at the persistent tension and continuing military activities in parts of the Mediterranean that hinder efforts to strengthen security and cooperation in the region,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>386</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* that security in the Mediterranean is closely linked to European security as well as to international peace and security;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the continuing efforts by Mediterranean countries to contribute actively to the elimination of all causes of tension in the region and to the promotion of just and lasting solutions to the persistent problems of the region through peaceful means, thus ensuring the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation and respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries of the Mediterranean and the right of peoples to self-determination, and therefore calls for full adherence to the principles of non-interference, non-intervention, non-use of force or threat of use of force and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Commends* the Mediterranean countries for their efforts in meeting common challenges through coordinated overall responses, based on a spirit of multilateral partnership, towards the general objective of turning the Mediterranean basin into an area of dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity, encourages them to strengthen such efforts through, inter alia, a lasting multilateral and action-oriented cooperative dialogue among States of the region, and recognizes the role of the United Nations in promoting regional and international peace and security;

4. *Recognizes* that the elimination of the economic and social disparities in levels of development and other obstacles, as well as respect and greater understanding among cultures in the Mediterranean area, will contribute to enhancing peace, security and cooperation among Mediterranean countries through the existing forums;

5. *Calls upon* all States of the Mediterranean region that have not yet done so to adhere to all the multilaterally negotiated legal instruments in force related to the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, thus creating the conditions necessary for strengthening peace and cooperation in the region;

6. *Encourages* all States of the region to favour the conditions necessary for strengthening the confidence-building measures among them by promoting genuine openness and transparency on all military matters, by participating, inter alia, in the United Nations Report on Military Expenditures and by providing accurate data and information to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;

7. *Encourages* the Mediterranean countries to strengthen further their cooperation in combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including the possible resort by terrorists to weapons of mass destruction, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and in combating international crime and illicit arms transfers

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<sup>385</sup> Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

<sup>386</sup> A/73/94.

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and illicit drug production, consumption and trafficking, which pose a serious threat to peace, security and stability in the region and therefore to the improvement of the current political, economic and social situation and which jeopardize friendly relations among States, hinder the development of international cooperation and result in the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the democratic basis of pluralistic society;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region”.

### RESOLUTION 73/86

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/516, para. 7),<sup>387</sup> by a recorded vote of 183 to 1, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Democratic People's Republic of Korea

*Abstaining:* India, Mauritius, Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America

### 73/86. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

*The General Assembly,*

*Reiterating* that the cessation of nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions constitutes an effective nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation measure, and convinced that this is a meaningful step in the realization of a systematic process for achieving nuclear disarmament,

*Recalling* that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted by the General Assembly by its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, was opened for signature on 24 September 1996,

*Stressing* that a universal and effectively verifiable Treaty constitutes a fundamental instrument in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and will be a major contribution to international peace and security,

<sup>387</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Zambia.

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*Stressing also* the vital importance and urgency of achieving the entry into force of the Treaty, as noted also in Security Council resolution [2310 \(2016\)](#) of 23 September 2016, and affirming its resolute determination, 22 years after the Treaty was opened for signature, to achieve its entry into force,

*Encouraged by* the signing of the Treaty by 184 States, including 41 of the 44 whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, and welcoming the ratification of the Treaty by 167 States, including 36 of the 44 whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, among which there are 3 nuclear-weapon States,

*Recalling* its resolution [72/70](#) of 4 December 2017,

*Recalling also* the adoption by consensus of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>388</sup> in which the Conference, inter alia, reaffirmed the vital importance of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty as a core element of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime and included specific actions to be taken in support of the entry into force of the Treaty,

*Welcoming* the Final Declaration adopted by the tenth Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in New York on 20 September 2017, convened pursuant to article XIV of the Treaty, and recalling the Joint Ministerial Statement on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted at the ministerial meeting held in New York on 27 September 2018,

*Noting* the conference of the Youth Group of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, held in Moscow from 18 to 20 October 2017, and the “intergenerational dialogue”, held in Astana from 28 August to 2 September 2018, which brought together members of the group of eminent persons established to support the article XIV process and members of the Youth Group to build and sustain momentum for the universalization and entry into force of the Treaty,

*Welcoming* continuing progress in the development of the Treaty’s verification regime, which advances the Treaty’s primary non-proliferation and disarmament objective, and the establishment of over 91 per cent of the stations planned for the International Monitoring System network,

*Recognizing* the civil and scientific benefits provided by the Treaty’s global monitoring system,

1. *Stresses* the vital importance and urgency of signature and ratification, without delay and without conditions, in order to achieve the earliest entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;<sup>389</sup>

2. *Welcomes* the contributions by the signatory States to the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in particular its efforts to ensure that the verification regime of the Treaty will be capable of meeting the verification requirements of the Treaty upon its entry into force, in accordance with article IV of the Treaty, and encourages their continuation;

3. *Underlines* the need to maintain momentum towards the completion of all elements of the verification regime;

4. *Urges* all States not to carry out nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, to maintain their moratoriums in this regard and to refrain from acts that would defeat the object and purpose of the Treaty, while stressing that these measures do not have the same permanent and legally binding effect as the entry into force of the Treaty;

5. *Condemns in the strongest terms* the six nuclear tests conducted by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea since 2006 in violation of relevant Security Council resolutions,<sup>390</sup> urges full compliance with the obligations under those resolutions, including that the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea abandon its nuclear weapons programme and not conduct any further nuclear tests, notes with encouragement the statement of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea concerning a moratorium on nuclear tests and efforts towards the dismantlement of the Punggye-ri nuclear test site, reaffirms its support for the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the

<sup>388</sup> 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions.

<sup>389</sup> See resolution [50/245](#) and [A/50/1027](#).

<sup>390</sup> Including Security Council resolutions [1718 \(2006\)](#), [1874 \(2009\)](#), [2094 \(2013\)](#), [2270 \(2016\)](#), [2321 \(2016\)](#) and [2375 \(2017\)](#).

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Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner, including through the Six-Party Talks, and welcomes all efforts and dialogue to this end, including the recent inter-Korean summits and the summit between the United States of America and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

6. *Urges* all States that have not yet signed or ratified, or that have signed but not yet ratified, the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to sign and ratify it as soon as possible and to accelerate their ratification processes with a view to ensuring their earliest successful conclusion;

7. *Welcomes*, since the adoption of its previous resolution on the subject, the ratification of the Treaty by Thailand and the signature of the Treaty by Tuvalu, since each ratification or signature is a significant step towards the entry into force of the Treaty;

8. *Encourages* further expressions from among the remaining States whose ratification is needed for the Treaty to enter into force of their intention to pursue and complete the ratification process;

9. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Treaty through bilateral and joint outreach, seminars and other means;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

### RESOLUTION 73/87

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/517, para. 8)<sup>391</sup>

#### **73/87. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions relating to the complete and effective prohibition of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and on their destruction,

*Noting with satisfaction* the increase in the number of ratifications of and accessions to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,<sup>392</sup> and stressing at the same time that there is a continuing need to achieve its universalization,

*Reaffirming its call upon* all signatory States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so without delay, and calling upon those States that have not signed the Convention to become parties thereto at the earliest possible date, thus contributing to the achievement of universal adherence to the Convention, which will facilitate its success,

*Bearing in mind* its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the implementation of the recommendations of the review conferences of the parties to the Convention, including the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, later amended by the Final Declaration of the Seventh Review Conference, and to provide such information and data in conformity with the standardized procedure to the Implementation Support Unit within the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat on an annual basis and no later than 15 April,

*Welcoming* the reaffirmation made in the Final Declarations of the Fourth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Review Conferences that under all circumstances the use of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and their development, production and stockpiling are effectively prohibited under article I of the Convention,

*Recognizing* the importance of ongoing efforts by States parties to enhance international cooperation, assistance and the fullest possible exchange of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for the use of

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<sup>391</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Hungary.

<sup>392</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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bacteriological (biological) agents and toxins for peaceful purposes, recognizing also that there still remain challenges to be overcome in order to enhance international cooperation, and recognizing further the value of building capacity through international cooperation as well as strengthening coordination and coherence of efforts of all relevant international organizations, in line with the Final Document of the Eighth Review Conference,<sup>393</sup>

*Reaffirming* the importance of national measures, in accordance with constitutional processes, in strengthening the implementation of the Convention by States parties, in line with the Final Document of the Eighth Review Conference,

*Reaffirming also* the importance of the review of developments in the field of science and technology related to the Convention,

*Recalling* previous intersessional processes carried out under the Convention,

*Noting*, in the decisions and recommendations of the Final Document, that the Eighth Review Conference decided that States parties would hold annual meetings and that the first such meeting would start on 4 December 2017, have a duration of up to five days and seek to make progress on issues of substance and process for the period before the next Review Conference, with a view to reaching consensus on an intersessional process,

*Recalling* the decision of the Eighth Review Conference that the Ninth Review Conference shall be held in Geneva not later than 2021,

1. *Notes* the consensus outcome of and the decisions on all provisions of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction<sup>392</sup> reached at the Eighth Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention,<sup>393</sup> and calls upon States parties to the Convention to participate and actively engage in their continued implementation;

2. *Notes with appreciation* that the meeting of States parties to the Convention, held in Geneva from 4 to 8 December 2017, was able to reach consensus on reaffirming previous intersessional programmes carried out during the period 2003–2015, on retaining the previous structure of annual meetings of States parties preceded by annual meetings of experts, and on reaffirming that the purpose of the intersessional programme was to discuss, and promote common understanding and effective action on, those issues identified for inclusion in the intersessional programme, and that the work of the intersessional period would be guided by the aim of strengthening the implementation of all articles of the Convention in order to better respond to current challenges;<sup>394</sup>

3. *Also notes with appreciation* that, in the light of the need to balance an ambition to improve the intersessional programme within the financial and human resources constraints facing States parties, 12 days were allocated to the intersessional programme each year from 2018 to 2020, that the meetings of experts for eight days would be held back to back and at least three months before the annual meetings of States parties of four days each, and that the meetings of experts would be open-ended and would consider the following topics: cooperation and assistance, with a particular focus on strengthening cooperation and assistance under article X (two days); review of developments in the field of science and technology related to the Convention (two days); strengthening national implementation (one day); assistance, response and preparedness (two days); and institutional strengthening of the Convention (one day);

4. *Appreciates* the information and data on confidence-building measures provided by States parties to the Convention to date, and calls upon all States parties to participate in the exchange of information and data on confidence-building measures called for in the relevant decisions of the review conferences, and invites them to make use of the new platform for electronic submission, on a voluntary basis, without prejudice to their choice of methods for submission;

5. *Notes* the decision of the Eighth Review Conference to continue and improve the database established by the Seventh Review Conference to facilitate requests for and offers of exchange of assistance and cooperation, and urges States parties to submit to the Implementation Support Unit, on a voluntary basis, requests for and offers of cooperation and assistance, including in terms of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information regarding the use of biological and toxin agents for peaceful purposes;

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<sup>393</sup> BWC/CONF.VIII/4 and BWC/CONF.VIII/4/Corr.1.

<sup>394</sup> See BWC/MSP/2017/6.



## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

6. *Encourages* States parties to provide, at least biannually, appropriate information on their implementation of article X of the Convention and to collaborate to offer assistance or training, upon request, as contained in specific proposals, in support of the legislative and other implementation measures of States parties needed to ensure their compliance with the Convention;

7. *Notes* the decision of the Eighth Review Conference to renew the sponsorship programme established by the Seventh Review Conference in order to support and increase the participation of developing States parties in the annual meetings, welcomes the continued willingness among States parties to provide voluntary contributions, and calls upon States parties in a position to do so to offer voluntary contributions for the programme;

8. *Also notes* the decision of the Eighth Review Conference to renew the mandate of the Implementation Support Unit agreed to at the Seventh Review Conference, *mutatis mutandis*, for the period from 2017 to 2021, and notes with appreciation the work of the Unit;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the events organized by some States parties, regional organizations and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat for exchanges of views on the implementation of the Convention, and encourages States parties to continue to participate in such informal exchanges and discussions;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render the necessary assistance to the depositary Governments of the Convention and to continue to provide such services as may be required for the conduct and the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the review conferences;

11. *Appreciates* that the meeting of States parties in Geneva in December 2017 considered financial matters under item 9 of its agenda, noted with concern the financial situation of the Convention on account of, *inter alia*, systemic issues with the current funding arrangements, as well as arrears in payment of assessed contributions, and requested the Chair of the 2018 meeting of States parties to prepare an information paper in consultation with the United Nations Office at Geneva, the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, the Implementation Support Unit and States parties on measures to address financial predictability and sustainability for the meetings agreed by States parties and for the Unit for review by States parties in 2018, and calls upon States parties to consider ways of addressing these serious issues as a matter of urgency, in line with paragraph 19 (f) of the report of the meeting of States parties;<sup>394</sup>

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction”.

### RESOLUTION 73/266

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/505, para. 11),<sup>395</sup> by a recorded vote of 138 to 12, with 16 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey,

<sup>395</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.



## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen

*Against:* Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

*Abstaining:* Algeria, Belarus, Botswana, Cambodia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Senegal

### 73/266. Advancing responsible State behaviour in cyberspace in the context of international security

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [53/70](#) of 4 December 1998, [54/49](#) of 1 December 1999, [55/28](#) of 20 November 2000, [56/19](#) of 29 November 2001, [57/53](#) of 22 November 2002, [58/32](#) of 8 December 2003, [59/61](#) of 3 December 2004, [60/45](#) of 8 December 2005, [61/54](#) of 6 December 2006, [62/17](#) of 5 December 2007, [63/37](#) of 2 December 2008, [64/25](#) of 2 December 2009, [65/41](#) of 8 December 2010, [66/24](#) of 2 December 2011, [67/27](#) of 3 December 2012, [68/243](#) of 27 December 2013, [69/28](#) of 2 December 2014, [70/237](#) of 23 December 2015 and [71/28](#) of 5 December 2016, as well as its decision 72/512 of 4 December 2017,

*Noting* that considerable progress has been achieved in developing and applying the latest information technologies and means of telecommunication,

*Affirming* that it sees in this progress the broadest positive opportunities for the further development of civilization, the expansion of opportunities for cooperation for the common good of all States, the enhancement of the creative potential of humankind and additional improvements in the circulation of information in the global community,

*Noting* that the dissemination and use of information technologies and means affect the interests of the entire international community and that optimum effectiveness is enhanced by broad international cooperation,

*Confirming* that information and communications technologies are dual-use technologies and can be used for both legitimate and malicious purposes,

*Stressing* that it is in the interest of all States to promote the use of information and communications technologies for peaceful purposes and to prevent conflict arising from the use of information and communications technologies,

*Expressing concern* that these technologies and means can potentially be used for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure of States, to the detriment of their security in both civil and military fields,

*Underscoring* the need for enhanced coordination and cooperation among States in combating the criminal misuse of information technologies,

*Underlining* the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the use of information and communications technologies,

*Welcoming* the effective work of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security and the 2010,<sup>396</sup> 2013<sup>397</sup> and 2015<sup>398</sup> reports transmitted by the Secretary-General,

*Stressing* the importance of the assessments and recommendations contained in the reports of the Group of Governmental Experts,

*Confirming* the conclusions of the Group of Governmental Experts, in its 2013 and 2015 reports, that international law, and in particular the Charter of the United Nations, is applicable and essential to maintaining peace and stability and promoting an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful information and communications technology environment, that voluntary and non-binding norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviour of

<sup>396</sup> [A/65/201](#).

<sup>397</sup> [A/68/98](#).

<sup>398</sup> [A/70/174](#).

## II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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States in the use of information and communications technologies can reduce risks to international peace, security and stability, and that, given the unique attributes of such technologies, additional norms can be developed over time,

*Confirming also* the conclusions of the Group of Governmental Experts that voluntary confidence-building measures can promote trust and assurance among States and help to reduce the risk of conflict by increasing predictability and reducing misperception and thereby make an important contribution to addressing the concerns of States over the use of information and communications technologies by States and could be a significant step towards greater international security,

*Confirming further* the conclusions of the Group of Governmental Experts that providing assistance to build capacity in the area of information and communications technology security is also essential for international security, by improving the capacity of States for cooperation and collective action and promoting the use of such technologies for peaceful purposes,

*Stressing* that, while States have a primary responsibility for maintaining a secure and peaceful information and communications technology environment, effective international cooperation would benefit from identifying mechanisms for the participation, as appropriate, of the private sector, academia and civil society organizations,

1. *Calls upon* Member States:

(a) To be guided in their use of information and communications technologies by the 2010,<sup>396</sup> 2013<sup>397</sup> and 2015<sup>398</sup> reports of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security;

(b) To support the implementation of cooperative measures, as identified in the reports of the Group of Governmental Experts, to address the threats emerging in this field and ensure an open, interoperable, reliable and secure information and communications technology environment consistent with the need to preserve the free flow of information;

2. *Invites* all Member States, taking into account the assessments and recommendations contained in the reports of the Group of Governmental Experts, to continue to inform the Secretary-General of their views and assessments on the following questions:

(a) Efforts taken at the national level to strengthen information security and promote international cooperation in this field;

(b) The content of the concepts mentioned in the reports of the Group of Governmental Experts;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts, to be established in 2019 on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, proceeding from the assessments and recommendations contained in the above-mentioned reports, to continue to study, with a view to promoting common understandings and effective implementation, possible cooperative measures to address existing and potential threats in the sphere of information security, including norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviour of States, confidence-building measures and capacity-building, as well as how international law applies to the use of information and communications technologies by States, and to submit a report on the results of the study, including an annex containing national contributions of participating governmental experts on the subject of how international law applies to the use of information and communications technologies by States, to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session;

4. *Requests* the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, through existing resources and voluntary contributions, on behalf of the members of the group of governmental experts, to collaborate with relevant regional organizations, such as the African Union, the European Union, the Organization of American States, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Regional Forum of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, to convene a series of consultations to share views on the issues within the mandate of the group in advance of its sessions;

5. *Requests* the Chair of the group of governmental experts to organize two two-day informal consultative meetings, open-ended so that all Member States can engage in interactive discussions and share their views, which the Chair shall convey to the group of governmental experts for consideration;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security".

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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## RESOLUTION 73/90

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/470, para. 8)<sup>1</sup>

### 73/90. University for Peace

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 70/79 of 9 December 2015, in which it recalled that, in its resolution 34/111 of 14 December 1979, it had approved the idea of establishing the University for Peace as a specialized international centre for higher education, research and the dissemination of knowledge specifically aimed at training and education for peace and its universal promotion within the United Nations system, as well as all preceding resolutions on this item,

*Recalling also* that, in its resolution 35/55 of 5 December 1980, the General Assembly approved the establishment of the University for Peace in conformity with the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace, contained in the annex to that resolution,

*Taking into account* that in 2020 the University will celebrate 40 years of executing the mandate given to it by the General Assembly of educating and training leaders for peace,

*Recognizing* the important and varied activities carried out by the University during the period from 2015 to 2018 with the valuable assistance and contributions of Governments, foundations and non-governmental organizations, in particular the progress made in the further development and implementation of the academic programme and in expanding its coverage in various regions of the world,

*Noting with appreciation* that the University has reaffirmed its commitment to academic excellence throughout its doctoral and master's degree programmes in areas related to peace studies, security and the environment, which include two master's degree programmes taught in Spanish,

*Noting with appreciation also* that the majority of the students and alumni are women, and acknowledging the fact that women play a critical role as peacebuilders at the international, national and local levels,

*Noting* that the University places special emphasis on the areas of conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and the peaceful settlement of disputes and that it has launched capacity-building programmes in the areas of access to justice, international human rights law, post-conflict consensus-building and training of academic experts in the techniques of peaceful conflict resolution,

*Noting with appreciation* the support provided to the University by the host country, Costa Rica,

*Recognizing* the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>2</sup> and the need to coordinate efforts for its implementation,

*Recognizing also* the relevance of Sustainable Development Goal 4, to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, in particular its target 4.b, which aims to substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries by 2020,

*Outlining* the new initiatives of the University, such as the off-campus master's degree programme in transnational crime and justice, the master's degree programme in peace, governance and security and the seminars and workshops on international law and access to justice in Latin America,

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<sup>1</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Bangladesh, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Lebanon, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Ukraine and Uruguay.

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 70/1.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Taking note* of the commitment of the University in its support to the work of the United Nations, and recognizing its contribution through programmes focused on peacebuilding and sustaining peace,

*Considering* the importance of promoting education for peace that fosters respect for the values inherent in peace and universal coexistence among people, including respect for the life, dignity and integrity of human beings, as well as friendship and solidarity among people irrespective of their nationality, race, sex, religion or culture, in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Considering also* the need for the University to consolidate its development and the relaunch of its activities,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution [70/79](#), outlining the progress made with regard to the administrative and financial stabilization of the University for Peace and through its recent process of academic reform through the implementation of its innovative programmes on critical subjects related to peace and security;<sup>3</sup>

2. *Requests* the University, given its role in developing new concepts and approaches to security through education, training and research in order to respond effectively to emerging threats to peace, to find viable ways to further strengthen cooperation with the United Nations system;

3. *Recalls* its resolution [64/83](#) of 10 December 2009, and reiterates the request made to the Secretary-General to establish, under his leadership, a trust fund for peace to facilitate the receipt of voluntary contributions to the University;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to expand the scope for using the services of the University as part of his conflict resolution and peacebuilding effort through the training of staff, especially those concerned with peacekeeping and peacebuilding, in order to strengthen their capacities in this area, and in the promotion of the Declaration and the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace<sup>4</sup> and of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>2</sup>

5. *Requests* Member States to take the lead in supporting the mission of the University by recognizing the institution and, when possible, making financial contributions that will make it possible for the University to offer its programmes of study to all students who wish to participate in them, and by facilitating the University's operations in host countries;

6. *Invites* Member States that have not already done so to accede to the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace,<sup>5</sup> thereby demonstrating their support for an educational institution established pursuant to a General Assembly resolution and devoted to the promotion of a universal culture of peace and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

7. *Invites* the University to further strengthen and broaden the outreach of its programmes and activities for cooperation with and capacity-building for Member States in the areas of conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding;

8. *Encourages* intergovernmental bodies, non-governmental organizations, interested individuals and philanthropists to contribute to the programmes and core budget of the University to enable it to continue to perform its valuable work worldwide in accordance with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in the substantial transformations that took place in the context of the seventieth anniversary of the United Nations with regard to such issues as gender equality and the empowerment of women, human rights, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and climate change;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-sixth session the item entitled "University for Peace", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at that session a report on the work of the University.

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<sup>3</sup> [A/73/313](#).

<sup>4</sup> Resolutions [53/243](#) A and B.

<sup>5</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1223, No. 19735.



## RESOLUTION 73/91

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/471, para. 12)<sup>6</sup> and as orally revised

### 73/91. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/122 of 13 December 1996, 54/68 of 6 December 1999, 59/2 of 20 October 2004, 61/110 and 61/111 of 14 December 2006, 62/101 of 17 December 2007, 62/217 of 22 December 2007, 65/97 of 10 December 2010, 65/271 of 7 April 2011, 66/71 of 9 December 2011, 67/113 of 18 December 2012, 68/50 of 5 December 2013, 68/74 and 68/75 of 11 December 2013, 69/85 of 5 December 2014, 70/1 of 25 September 2015, 70/82 of 9 December 2015, 70/230 of 23 December 2015, 71/90 of 6 December 2016, and 72/77 and 72/78 of 7 December 2017,

*Emphasizing* the significant progress in the development of space science and technology and their applications that has enabled humans to explore the universe, and the extraordinary achievements made in space exploration efforts, including deepening the understanding of the planetary system and the Sun and the Earth itself, in the use of space science and technology for the benefit of all humankind and in the development of the international legal regime governing space activities,

*Recognizing*, in that regard, the unique platform at the global level for international cooperation in space activities represented by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and Legal Subcommittee and assisted by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat,

*Deeply convinced* of the common interest of all humankind in promoting and expanding the exploration and use of outer space, as the province of all humankind, for peaceful purposes and in continuing efforts to extend to all Member States the benefits derived therefrom, and also of the importance of international cooperation in this field, for which the United Nations should continue to provide a focal point,

*Reaffirming* the importance of international cooperation in developing the rule of international law, including the relevant norms of international space law and their important role in international cooperation for the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, and of the widest possible adherence to international treaties that promote the peaceful uses of outer space in order to meet emerging new challenges, especially for developing countries,

*Seriously concerned* about the possibility of an arms race in outer space, and bearing in mind the importance of article IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,<sup>7</sup>

*Recognizing* that all Member States, in particular those with major space capabilities, should contribute actively to the prevention of an arms race in outer space with a view to promoting and strengthening international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

*Deeply concerned* about the fragility of the space environment and the challenges to the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, in particular the impact of space debris, which is an issue of concern to all nations,

*Noting* the progress achieved in the development of peaceful space exploration and applications as well as in various national and cooperative space projects, and the importance of further developing the legal framework to strengthen international cooperation in space,

*Convinced* that space science and technology and their applications, including satellite communications, Earth observation systems and satellite navigation technologies, provide indispensable tools for viable long-term solutions for sustainable development and can contribute more effectively to efforts to promote the development of all countries

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<sup>6</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Mexico (on behalf of the Working Group of the Whole on International Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space).

<sup>7</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

and regions of the world, and stressing in that regard the need to harness the benefits of space technology towards implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>8</sup>

*Seriously concerned* about the devastating impact of disasters,<sup>9</sup> and desirous of enhancing international coordination and cooperation at the global level in disaster management and emergency response through greater access to and use of space-based services and geospatial information for all countries and facilitating capacity-building and institutional strengthening for disaster management, in particular in developing countries,

*Firmly convinced* that the use of space science and technology and their applications in areas such as tele-health, tele-education, disaster management, environmental protection, natural resources management and ocean and climate monitoring contribute to achieving the objectives of the global conferences of the United Nations that address various aspects of economic, social and cultural development, particularly poverty eradication,

*Deeply concerned* about the devastating effects of infectious diseases, including Ebola virus disease, to the detriment of human life, society and development, and urging the international community to enhance the role of space-based solutions, in particular tele-epidemiology, in monitoring, preparedness and response activities,

*Recalling* the fact that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, recognized the important role that space science and technology play in promoting sustainable development,<sup>10</sup>

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its sixty-first session,<sup>11</sup>

1. *Endorses* the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its sixty-first session;<sup>11</sup>

2. *Agrees* that the Committee, at its sixty-second session, should consider the substantive items and convene the working group recommended at its sixty-first session,<sup>12</sup> including holding intersessional consultations as necessary, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

3. *Notes* that, at its fifty-seventh session, the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee continued its work,<sup>13</sup> as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution [72/77](#);

4. *Agrees* that the Legal Subcommittee, at its fifty-eighth session, should consider the substantive items and reconvene the working groups recommended by the Committee,<sup>14</sup> including holding intersessional consultations as necessary, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

5. *Urges* Member States that have not yet become parties to the international treaties governing the uses of outer space<sup>15</sup> to give consideration to ratifying or acceding to those treaties in accordance with their national law, as well as incorporating them into their national legislation;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* that the space law curriculum developed by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat and published in all official languages of the United Nations could encourage further studies within Member States in cooperation with relevant entities in support of capacity-building efforts in space law and policy;

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<sup>8</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>9</sup> The term “disasters” refers to natural or technological disasters.

<sup>10</sup> Resolution [66/288](#), annex, para. 274.

<sup>11</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/73/20)*.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 384.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. III.D; see also [A/AC.105/1177](#).

<sup>14</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/73/20)*, paras. 290–291.

<sup>15</sup> Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843); Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 672, No. 9574); Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 961, No. 13810); Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1023, No. 15020); and Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1363, No. 23002).

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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7. *Takes note* of the report of the Working Group on the Review of International Mechanisms for Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space on the work conducted under its multi-year workplan,<sup>16</sup> as finalized at the fifty-sixth session of the Legal Subcommittee, and notes that the report provides an important source of information and useful guidance for further joint undertakings by spacefaring nations and emerging space nations, as appropriate;

8. *Notes* that, at its fifty-fifth session, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee continued its work,<sup>17</sup> as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 72/77;

9. *Agrees* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its fifty-sixth session, should consider the substantive items and reconvene the working groups recommended by the Committee,<sup>18</sup> including the holding of intersessional consultations as necessary, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

10. *Reiterates* the importance of information-sharing in discovering, monitoring and physically characterizing potentially hazardous near-Earth objects to ensure that all countries, in particular developing countries with limited capacity for predicting and mitigating a near-Earth object impact, are aware of potential threats, emphasizes the need for capacity-building for effective emergency response and disaster management in the event of a near-Earth object impact, and notes with satisfaction the work carried out by the International Asteroid Warning Network and the Space Mission Planning Advisory Group to strengthen international cooperation to mitigate the potential threat posed by near-Earth objects, with the support of the Office, serving as the permanent secretariat of the Advisory Group;<sup>19</sup>

11. *Notes with appreciation* that some Member States are already implementing space debris mitigation measures on a voluntary basis, through national mechanisms and consistent with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee and with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,<sup>20</sup> endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/217, and invites other States to implement, through relevant national mechanisms, the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;

12. *Considers* that it is essential that Member States pay more attention to the problem of the gradually increasing probability of collisions of space objects, especially those with nuclear power sources, with space debris, and other aspects of space debris, calls for the continuation of national research on this question, for the development of improved technology for the monitoring of space debris and for the compilation and dissemination of data on space debris, also considers that, to the extent possible, information thereon should be provided to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, and agrees that international cooperation is needed to expand appropriate and affordable strategies to minimize the impact of space debris on future space missions;

13. *Urges* all Member States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes;

14. *Requests* the Committee to continue to consider, as a matter of priority, ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, and agrees that the Committee should continue to consider the broader perspective of space security and associated matters that would be instrumental in ensuring the safe and responsible conduct of space activities, including ways to promote international, regional and interregional cooperation to that end;

15. *Decides* to convene a joint half-day panel discussion of the Disarmament and International Security Committee (First Committee) and the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), to address possible challenges to space security and sustainability, and to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-

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<sup>16</sup> [A/AC.105/C.2/112](#).

<sup>17</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/73/20)*, chap. III.C; see also [A/AC.105/1167](#).

<sup>18</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/73/20)*, paras. 215–217.

<sup>19</sup> See [A/AC.105/1138](#), paras. 205–210.

<sup>20</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/62/20)*, annex.

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fourth session, under the item entitled “International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space”, a sub-item entitled “Joint panel discussion of the First and Fourth Committees on possible challenges to space security and sustainability”,<sup>21</sup>

16. *Emphasizes* the central role of the Office in promoting international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space for economic, social and scientific development, in particular for the benefit of developing countries;

17. *Notes with satisfaction* the programme of work undertaken by the Office in 2018 to strengthen international cooperation in the conduct of space activities for peaceful purposes and the use of space science and technology and their applications towards the achievement of the internationally agreed Sustainable Development Goals, including the workshops and symposiums conducted to build capacity, the assistance provided to developing countries, at their request, in the development of national space policy and legislation in conformity with international space law, and actions implemented to strengthen institutional capacity in space activities;

18. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the activities being carried out by the Office to promote gender equality and the increased role of women in space activities, including through targeted capacity-building and technical advisory activities, and efforts to encourage enhanced involvement of women and girls in science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, and invites Member States to make voluntary contributions to those activities;

19. *Requests* the Office to continue to apprise the Committee and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and Legal Subcommittee, at their respective sessions in 2019, of the status of its capacity-building activities;

20. *Recognizes* the capacity-building activities under the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, which provide unique benefits for Member States, in particular developing countries, participating in those activities;<sup>22</sup>

21. *Notes with satisfaction* the activities carried out under the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER), and recognizes the significant achievements made and the advisory support provided to Member States within the framework of UN-SPIDER since its establishment in 2006<sup>23</sup> with the valuable contributions of its network of regional support offices, and encourages Member States, on a voluntary basis, to provide the programme with the additional resources necessary to address the increasing demand for support successfully and in a timely manner;

22. *Reiterates* the importance of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>24</sup> in which the value of space-based technology and Earth observation for disaster management and emergency response is recognized, and notes with satisfaction the efforts of the Office and its UN-SPIDER programme towards promoting international cooperation as a way to enhance the use of space-based technologies and related services at the national and local levels in contributing to the implementation of the Sendai Framework and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>8</sup>

23. *Notes with satisfaction* the continuous progress made by the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems with the support of the Office, in its capacity as executive secretariat of the International Committee, towards achieving compatibility and interoperability among global and regional space-based positioning, navigation and timing systems and in the promotion of the use of global navigation satellite systems and their integration into national infrastructure, particularly in developing countries, and notes with appreciation that the International Committee held its thirteenth meeting in Xi’an, China, from 4 to 9 November 2018;

24. *Notes with appreciation* that the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated to the United Nations, namely, the African regional centres for space science and technology education in the French and English languages, located in Morocco and Nigeria, respectively, the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Asia and the Pacific, located in China, the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific, located in India, the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Latin America and the Caribbean, with campuses located in Brazil and Mexico, and the Centre for Space Science

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<sup>21</sup> Ibid., *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/73/20)*, para. 385.

<sup>22</sup> See [A/AC.105/1167](#), sect. II.

<sup>23</sup> Resolution [61/110](#).

<sup>24</sup> Resolution [69/283](#), annex II.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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and Technology Education for Western Asia, located in Jordan, have continued their education programmes in 2018, encourages the regional centres to continue to promote greater participation of women in their education programmes, and agrees that the regional centres should continue to report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on their activities;

25. *Emphasizes* that regional and interregional cooperation in the field of space activities is essential to strengthen the peaceful uses of outer space, assist Member States in the development of their space capabilities and contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to that end requests relevant regional organizations and their groups of experts to offer the assistance necessary so that countries can carry out the recommendations of regional conferences, and in that regard notes the importance of the equal participation of women in all fields of science and technology;

26. *Recognizes*, in that regard, the important role played by such organizations as the Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization and the European Space Agency and by conferences and other mechanisms, such as the African Leadership Conference on Space Science and Technology for Sustainable Development, the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum and the Space Conference of the Americas, in strengthening regional and international cooperation among States;

27. *Notes with satisfaction* the adoption of the African Space Policy and Strategy by the Assembly of the African Union at its twenty-sixth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa on 30 and 31 January 2016, and notes that this achievement marks the first step towards the realization of an African outer space programme within the framework of the African Union Agenda 2063;

28. *Emphasizes* the need to increase the benefits of space technology and its applications and to contribute to an orderly growth of space activities favourable to sustained economic growth and sustainable development in all countries, including strengthening sustainable spatial data infrastructure at the regional and national levels and building resilience to reduce the consequences of disasters, in particular in developing countries;

29. *Reiterates* the need to promote the benefits of space technology and its applications in the major United Nations conferences and summits for economic, social and cultural development and related fields, and recognizes that the fundamental significance of space science and technology and their applications for global, regional, national and local sustainable development processes should be promoted in the formulation of policies and programmes of action and their implementation, including through efforts towards achieving the objectives of those conferences and summits and in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

30. *Encourages* Member States, to that end, to promote the inclusion in those conferences, summits and processes of the relevance of space science and technology applications and the use of space-derived geospatial data, and in general, space-based data and infrastructures, with the involvement of the Office;

31. *Encourages* the Office to take active part in those conferences, summits and processes and other activities in support of their objectives, as appropriate, and to conduct capacity-building activities, hold lectures and participate in academic and research activities to foster international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space;

32. *Urges* the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space), under the leadership of the Office, to continue to examine how space science and technology and their applications could contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and encourages entities of the United Nations system to participate, as appropriate, in UN-Space coordination efforts;

33. *Encourages* the Office to continue to conduct capacity-building and outreach activities associated with space security and transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities, as appropriate, and within the context of the long-term sustainability of outer space activities;

34. *Also encourages* the Office to continue exploring existing avenues and new opportunities to increase its capability to meet the growing demand for support to strengthen the capacity of countries, in particular developing countries, in using space science and technology and their applications and to inform the Committee of those efforts;

35. *Agrees* that the Office should pursue greater engagement with industry and private sector entities to further their support for and contributions to the overall work of the Office;<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/72/20)*, para. 326.



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36. *Appeals* to Governments, the relevant entities of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, institutions, industry and private sector entities and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund in support of the United Nations Programme on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in order to support the efforts of the Office to secure additional resources to facilitate the full implementation of its programme of work, including, where appropriate, the financing of special projects, and otherwise to assist the Office in carrying out technical cooperation and assistance activities, in particular for developing countries;

37. *Endorses* the composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subcommittees for the period 2020–2021,<sup>26</sup> and agrees that the Committee and its subcommittees should elect their officers at their respective sessions in 2020 in accordance with that composition;

38. *Also endorses* the decision of the Committee to grant permanent observer status to the European Union, and notes that the European Union will participate in the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies in accordance with General Assembly resolution [65/276](#) of 3 May 2011;<sup>27</sup>

39. *Further endorses* the decision of the Committee to grant permanent observer status to the International Organization for Standardization, and to grant the status of observer to the Organization on Space Technologies for Societal Applications (Canada-Europe-United States-Asia-Africa) and For All Moonkind in accordance with the procedures of the Committee;<sup>28</sup>

40. *Encourages* the regional groups to promote active participation in the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies by the States members of the Committee that are also members of the respective regional groups.

#### RESOLUTION 73/92

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/523](#), para. 16),<sup>29</sup> by a recorded vote of 163 to 2, with 13 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Guatemala, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Vanuatu

<sup>26</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/73/20)*, paras. 365–370.

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 371–372.

<sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 374–379.

<sup>29</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.



**73/92. Assistance to Palestine refugees**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution [194 \(III\)](#) of 11 December 1948 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question, including resolution [72/80](#) of 7 December 2017,

*Recalling also* its resolution [302 \(IV\)](#) of 8 December 1949, by which, inter alia, it established the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,

*Recalling further* the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

*Aware* of the fact that, for more than six decades, the Palestine refugees have suffered from the loss of their homes, lands and means of livelihood,

*Affirming* the imperative of resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees for the achievement of justice and for the achievement of lasting peace in the region,

*Acknowledging* the essential role that the Agency has played for over 65 years since its establishment in ameliorating the plight of the Palestine refugees through the provision of education, health, relief and social services and ongoing work in the areas of camp infrastructure, microfinance, protection and emergency assistance,

*Taking note* of the report of the Commissioner-General of the Agency covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017,<sup>30</sup>

*Taking note also* of the report of the Commissioner-General of 31 May 2018, submitted pursuant to paragraph 57 of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>31</sup> and expressing concern regarding the severe financial crisis of the Agency and the negative implications for the continued delivery of core programmes to the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation,

*Aware* of the growing needs of the Palestine refugees throughout all the fields of operation, namely, Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

*Expressing grave concern* at the especially difficult situation of the Palestine refugees under occupation, including with regard to their safety, well-being and socioeconomic living conditions,

*Expressing grave concern in particular* at the grave humanitarian situation and socioeconomic conditions of the Palestine refugees in the Gaza Strip, and underlining the importance of emergency and humanitarian assistance and urgent reconstruction efforts,

*Noting* the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements on 13 September 1993 by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization<sup>32</sup> and the subsequent implementation agreements,

1. *Notes with regret* that repatriation or compensation of the refugees, as provided for in paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution [194 \(III\)](#), has not yet been effected, and that, therefore, the situation of the Palestine refugees continues to be a matter of grave concern and the Palestine refugees continue to require assistance to meet basic health, education and living needs;

2. *Also notes with regret* that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine has been unable to find a means of achieving progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution [194 \(III\)](#), and reaffirms its request to the Conciliation Commission to continue exerting efforts towards the implementation of that paragraph and to report to the Assembly on the efforts being exerted in this regard as appropriate, but no later than 1 September 2019;

3. *Affirms* the necessity for the continuation of the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and the importance of its unimpeded operation and its provision of services,

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<sup>30</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/73/13).*

<sup>31</sup> [A/71/849](#).

<sup>32</sup> [A/48/486-S/26560](#), annex.

including emergency assistance, for the well-being, protection and human development of the Palestine refugees and for the stability of the region, pending the just resolution of the question of the Palestine refugees;

4. *Calls upon* all donors to continue to strengthen their efforts to meet the anticipated needs of the Agency, including with regard to increased expenditures and needs arising from conflicts and instability in the region and the serious socioeconomic and humanitarian situation, particularly in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and those needs mentioned in recent emergency, recovery and reconstruction appeals and plans for the Gaza Strip and in the regional crisis response plans to address the situation of Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic and those Palestine refugees who have fled to countries in the region;

5. *Commends* the Agency for its provision of vital assistance to the Palestine refugees and its role as a stabilizing factor in the region and the tireless efforts of the staff of the Agency in carrying out its mandate;

6. *Decides* to admit, upon its request, Qatar, in accordance with the criterion set forth in General Assembly decision 60/522 of 8 December 2005, as a member of the Advisory Commission of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

#### RESOLUTION 73/93

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/523, para. 16),<sup>33</sup> by a recorded vote of 155 to 6, with 13 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Australia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Guatemala, Honduras, Malawi, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, Togo, Vanuatu

#### 73/93. Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967, 2341 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and all subsequent related resolutions,

*Recalling also* Security Council resolutions 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967 and 259 (1968) of 27 September 1968,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of its resolution 72/81 of 7 December 2017,<sup>34</sup>

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<sup>33</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

<sup>34</sup> A/73/338.

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*Taking note also* of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017,<sup>35</sup>

*Concerned* about the continuing human suffering resulting from the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities,

*Taking note* of the relevant provisions of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993<sup>36</sup> with regard to the modalities for the admission of persons displaced in 1967, and concerned that the process agreed upon has not yet been effected,

*Taking note also* of its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of all persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities to return to their homes or former places of residence in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Stresses* the necessity for an accelerated return of displaced persons, and calls for compliance with the mechanism agreed upon by the parties in article XII of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993<sup>36</sup> on the return of displaced persons;

3. *Endorses*, in the meantime, the efforts of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis, and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are currently displaced and in serious need of continued assistance as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities, and requests the Commissioner-General to include information on relevant efforts in his annual report;

4. *Strongly appeals* to all Governments and to organizations and individuals to contribute generously to the Agency and to the other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned for the above-mentioned purposes.

#### RESOLUTION 73/94

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/523, para. 16),<sup>37</sup> by a recorded vote of 159 to 5, with 12 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

*Abstaining:* Australia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Guatemala, Malawi, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Vanuatu

<sup>35</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/73/13).*

<sup>36</sup> A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

<sup>37</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

**73/94. Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [194 \(III\)](#) of 11 December 1948, [212 \(III\)](#) of 19 November 1948, [302 \(IV\)](#) of 8 December 1949 and all subsequent related resolutions, including its resolution [72/82](#) of 7 December 2017,

*Recalling also* the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

*Having considered* the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017,<sup>38</sup>

*Taking note* of the letter dated 19 June 2018 from the Chair of the Advisory Commission of the Agency addressed to the Commissioner-General,<sup>39</sup> and noting the extraordinary meeting of the Commission held on 21 January and 16 August 2018,

*Underlining* that, at a time of heightened conflict and instability in the Middle East, the Agency continues to play a vital role in ameliorating the plight of the Palestine refugees through the provision of, inter alia, essential education, health, relief and social services programmes and emergency assistance to a registered population of more than 5.4 million refugees whose situation has become extremely precarious, in mitigating the consequences of alarming trends, including increasing violence, marginalization and poverty, in the areas of operation, and in providing a crucial measure of stability in the region,

*Deeply concerned* about the extremely critical financial situation of the Agency, caused by the structural underfunding of the Agency, as well as by rising needs and expenditures resulting from the deterioration of the socioeconomic and humanitarian conditions and the conflicts and rising instability in the region and their significant negative impact on the ability of the Agency to deliver essential services to the Palestine refugees, including its emergency, recovery, reconstruction and development programmes in all fields of operation,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,<sup>40</sup> submitted pursuant to resolution [71/93](#) of 6 December 2016, and the request contained therein for broad consultations to explore all ways and means, including through voluntary and assessed contributions, to ensure that the Agency's funding is sufficient, predictable and sustained for the duration of its mandate, and considering the recommendations contained in the report,

*Taking note also* of the report of 30 June 2017 of the Commissioner-General, submitted pursuant to paragraph 57 of the report of the Secretary-General and in follow-up to the update to the special report of 3 August 2015 of the Commissioner-General,<sup>41</sup> submitted pursuant to paragraph 21 of General Assembly resolution [302 \(IV\)](#), regarding the severe financial crisis of the Agency and the negative implications for the continued delivery of core Agency programmes to the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation,

*Expressing appreciation* for the efforts of donors and host countries to respond to the Agency's unprecedented financial crisis, including through generous, additional contributions and, where possible, continued increases in voluntary contributions, while acknowledging the steadfast support of all other donors to the Agency,

*Noting* that contributions have not been predictable enough or sufficient to meet growing needs and remedy the persistent shortfalls, which have been exacerbated in 2018 by the suspension of the single largest voluntary contribution to the Agency, undermining the Agency's operations and efforts to promote human development and meet Palestine refugees' basic needs, and stressing the need for further efforts to comprehensively address the recurrent funding shortfalls affecting the Agency's operations,

*Recognizing* the Agency's extensive efforts to rapidly develop innovative and diversified ways to address its financial shortfall and mobilize resources, including through the expansion of the donor base and partnerships with international financial institutions, the private sector and civil society, including through special initiatives such as the "Dignity is priceless" campaign,

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<sup>38</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/73/13).*

<sup>39</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 6–7.

<sup>40</sup> [A/71/849](#).

<sup>41</sup> [A/70/272](#), annex.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Commending* the Agency for the measures taken to address the financial crisis, despite difficult operational circumstances, including through the implementation of the medium-term strategy for 2016–2021 and various internal measures to contain expenditures, reduce operational and administrative costs, maximize the use of resources and reduce the funding shortfalls, and expressing profound concern that, despite such measures, the Agency's programme budget, which is funded primarily by voluntary contributions from Member States and intergovernmental organizations, faces persistent shortfalls that are increasingly threatening the delivery of the Agency's core programmes of assistance to the Palestine refugees,

*Encouraging* the Agency to sustain those reform efforts, while also taking all possible measures to protect and improve the quality of access to and the delivery of core programmes of assistance,

*Recalling* its resolution [65/272](#) of 18 April 2011, in which it requested the Secretary-General to continue to support the institutional strengthening of the Agency,

*Stressing* the need to support the Agency's capacity to uphold its mandate and to avert the serious humanitarian, political and security risks that would result from any interruption or suspension of its vital work,

*Recognizing* that the recurring and growing financial shortfalls directly affecting the sustainability of the Agency's operations need to be remedied by examining new funding modalities designed to put the Agency on a stable financial footing to enable it to effectively carry out its core programmes in accordance with its mandate and commensurate with humanitarian needs,

*Welcoming* the affirmation in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, adopted by the General Assembly on 19 September 2016,<sup>42</sup> that, inter alia, the Agency, along with other relevant organizations, requires sufficient funding to be able to carry out its activities effectively and in a predictable manner,

*Bearing in mind* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>43</sup> including the pledge that no one will be left behind, emphasizing that the Sustainable Development Goals apply to all, including refugees, and commending the efforts of the Agency's programmes to promote 10 of the 17 Goals, as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>40</sup>

*Welcoming* the joint efforts of host countries and donors to mobilize support for the Agency, including through extraordinary ministerial meetings, inter alia, the extraordinary ministerial conference held in Rome on 15 March 2018 on the theme "Preserving dignity and sharing responsibility: mobilizing collective action for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East", chaired by Egypt, Jordan and Sweden, and the ministerial meeting convened at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 27 September 2018, hosted by Germany, Japan, Jordan, Sweden, Turkey and the European Union, aimed at urgently addressing the Agency's funding shortfall and expanding donor support for the Agency,

*Welcoming also* the decision taken by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Council of Foreign Ministers at its forty-fifth session, held in Bangladesh in May 2018, and reaffirmed at the seventh extraordinary session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Turkey in May 2018, to establish a waqf fund to support Palestine refugees through enhanced support to the Agency,

*Recalling* Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,<sup>44</sup>

*Recalling also* the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,<sup>45</sup>

*Recalling further* its resolutions [72/131](#) of 11 December 2017 on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel and [72/133](#) of 11 December 2017 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, calling upon, inter alia, all States to ensure respect for and the protection of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, to respect

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<sup>42</sup> Resolution [71/1](#).

<sup>43</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>44</sup> Resolution [22 A \(I\)](#).

<sup>45</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2051, No. 35457.



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the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance and to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises,

*Affirming* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,<sup>46</sup> to the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem,

*Aware* of the continuing needs of the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation, namely Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

*Gravely concerned* about the extremely difficult socioeconomic conditions being faced by the Palestine refugees in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly in the refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, as a result of the recurrent military operations, continuing prolonged Israeli closures, the construction of settlements and the wall, evictions, the demolition of homes and livelihood properties causing forced transfers of civilians, and the severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade, which have deepened unemployment and poverty rates among the refugees, with potentially lasting, long-term negative effects, while taking note of developments with regard to the situation of access there,

*Deploing* the continuing and negative repercussions of the conflicts in and around the Gaza Strip and the high number of Palestinian casualties, including children, in the recent period,

*Expressing grave concern* in this regard about the lasting impact on the humanitarian and socioeconomic situation of the Palestine refugees in the Gaza Strip, including high rates of food insecurity, poverty, displacement and the depletion of coping capacities, and taking note in this regard of the United Nations country team reports of 26 August 2016, entitled “Gaza: two years after” and of July 2017, entitled “Gaza ten years later” and the alarming conditions and figures documented therein,

*Deploing* all attacks affecting United Nations installations, including Agency schools sheltering displaced civilians, and all other breaches of the inviolability of United Nations premises, including during the conflict in the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014, as reported in the summary by the Secretary-General of the report of the Board of Inquiry<sup>47</sup> and by the independent commission of inquiry established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution S-21/1,<sup>48</sup> and stressing the imperative of ensuring accountability,

*Recalling* the temporary tripartite agreement facilitated by the United Nations in September 2014, and stressing the urgent need for the lifting of all Israeli closures and restrictions on the Gaza Strip and for the reconstruction of destroyed homes and infrastructure,

*Recalling also* its resolution [ES-10/18](#) of 16 January 2009 and Security Council resolution [1860 \(2009\)](#) of 8 January 2009, as well as the Agreement on Movement and Access of 15 November 2005,

*Calling upon* Israel to ensure the expedited and unimpeded import of all necessary construction materials into the Gaza Strip and to reduce the burdensome cost of importation of Agency supplies, while taking note of the continued implementation of the tripartite agreement facilitated by the United Nations,

*Expressing concern* about the continuing classroom shortage, including in the Gaza Strip, and the consequent negative impact on the right to education of refugee children,

*Stressing* the urgent need for the advancement of reconstruction in the Gaza Strip, including by ensuring the timely facilitation of construction projects, including extensive shelter repair, and the need for the accelerated implementation of other urgent United Nations-led civilian reconstruction activities,

*Welcoming* contributions made to the Agency’s emergency appeals, including for the Gaza Strip, and calling urgently upon the international community to continue its support, since needs persist and these appeals remain severely underfunded,

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<sup>46</sup> Ibid., vol. 75, No. 973.

<sup>47</sup> [S/2015/286](#), annex.

<sup>48</sup> See [A/HRC/29/52](#).



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*Urging* the full disbursement of pledges made at the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, held on 12 October 2014, for ensuring the provision of the necessary humanitarian assistance and accelerating the reconstruction process,

*Stressing* that the situation in the Gaza Strip is unsustainable and that a durable ceasefire agreement must lead to a fundamental improvement in the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, including through the sustained and regular opening of crossing points, and must ensure the safety and well-being of civilians on both sides,

*Affirming* the need to support the Palestinian national consensus Government in its assumption of full government responsibilities in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, in all fields, as well as through its presence at Gaza's crossing points,

*Noting with appreciation* the significant progress made towards rebuilding the Nahr el-Bared refugee camp, commending the Government of Lebanon, donors, the Agency and other parties concerned for the continuing efforts to assist affected and displaced refugees, and emphasizing the need for the funding required to complete the reconstruction of the camp and end without delay the displacement from the camp of thousands of residents whose shelters have not been rebuilt,

*Expressing deep concern* at the critical situation of Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic and at the impact of the crisis on the Agency's installations and its ability to deliver its services, and regretting profoundly the loss of life and widespread displacement among refugees and the killing of staff members of the Agency in the crisis since 2012,

*Emphasizing* the continuing need for assistance to Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic as well as those who have fled to neighbouring countries, and emphasizing the necessity of ensuring open borders for Palestine refugees fleeing the crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic, consistent with the principles of non-discrimination and non-refoulement under international law, and recalling in this regard the statement by the President of the Security Council of 2 October 2013<sup>49</sup> and the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants,

*Aware* of the valuable work done by the Agency in providing protection to the Palestinian people, in particular Palestine refugees, and recalling the need for the protection of all civilians in situations of armed conflict,

*Deploing* the endangerment of the safety of the Agency's staff and the damage and destruction caused to the facilities and properties of the Agency during the period covered by the report of the Commissioner-General, and stressing the need to maintain the neutrality and safeguard the inviolability of United Nations premises, installations and equipment at all times,

*Deploing also* the breaches of the inviolability of United Nations premises, the failure to accord the property and assets of the Organization immunity from any form of interference, incursions or misuse, the failure to protect United Nations personnel, premises and property and any disruption caused to Agency operations by such violations,

*Condemning* the killing, injury and detention contrary to international law of Agency staff members,

*Condemning also* the killing, wounding and detention contrary to international law of refugee children and women,

*Affirming* the need for accountability and compensation to victims of violations of international law in accordance with international standards by all sides,

*Deeply concerned* about the continuing imposition of restrictions on the freedom of movement and access of the Agency's staff, vehicles and goods, and the injury, harassment and intimidation of the Agency's staff, which undermine and obstruct the work of the Agency, including its ability to provide essential basic and emergency services,

*Recalling* the statement of 15 July 1999 and the declarations adopted on 5 December 2001 and on 17 December 2014<sup>50</sup> by the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention, including the call upon parties to facilitate the activities of the Agency, to guarantee its protection and to refrain from levying taxes and imposing undue financial burdens,

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<sup>49</sup> [S/PRST/2013/15](#); see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013–31 July 2014 (S/INF/69)*.

<sup>50</sup> [A/69/711-S/2015/1](#), annex.

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*Aware* of the agreement between the Agency and the Government of Israel,

*Taking note* of the agreement reached on 24 June 1994, embodied in an exchange of letters between the Agency and the Palestine Liberation Organization,<sup>51</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* that the effective functioning of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East remains essential in all fields of operation;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Commissioner-General of the Agency, as well as to all the staff of the Agency, for their tireless efforts and valuable work, particularly in the light of the difficult conditions, instability and crises faced during the past year;

3. *Expresses special commendation* to the Agency for the essential role that it has played for almost seven decades since its establishment in providing vital services for the well-being, human development and protection of the Palestine refugees and the amelioration of their plight and for the stability of the region, and affirms the necessity for continuing the work of the Agency and its unimpeded operation and provision of services, pending the just resolution of the question of the Palestine refugees;

4. *Commends* the Agency for its extraordinary efforts, in cooperation with other United Nations agencies on the ground, to provide emergency humanitarian assistance, including shelter, food and medical aid, to refugees and affected civilians during periods of crisis and conflict, and recognizes its exemplary capacity to mobilize in emergency situations while continuously carrying out its core human development programmes;

5. *Expresses its grave concern* about attempts to discredit the Agency despite its proven operational capacity, record of effective provision of humanitarian and development assistance and consistent implementation of its mandate in accordance with relevant resolutions and its regulatory framework, even under the most difficult circumstances;

6. *Reaffirms* the Agency's important role in providing humanitarian and development assistance to Palestine refugees, engaging with international human rights mechanisms, as appropriate, and in doing so contributing to the protection and resilience of Palestinian civilians, as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General on the protection of the Palestinian civilian population,<sup>52</sup> and contributing to regional stability;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* for the important support and cooperation provided by the host Governments to the Agency in the discharge of its duties;

8. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Advisory Commission of the Agency, and requests it to continue its efforts and to keep the General Assembly informed of its activities;

9. *Takes note* of the report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East<sup>53</sup> and the efforts to assist in ensuring the financial security of the Agency, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and assistance to the Working Group for the conduct of its work;

10. *Expresses its deep appreciation* to all donor countries and organizations that have, inter alia, sustained, accelerated or increased their contributions to the Agency, helping to alleviate its unprecedented financial crisis in 2018, to mitigate imminent risks to its core and emergency programming and to prevent an interruption of essential assistance to Palestine refugees;

11. *Commends* the Agency for its six-year medium-term strategy for 2016–2021 and the Commissioner-General for his continuing efforts to increase the budgetary transparency and efficiency of the Agency, as reflected in the Agency's programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;<sup>54</sup>

12. *Also commends* the Agency for sustaining its robust internal reform efforts, despite difficult operational circumstances, and recognizes its implementation of maximum efficiency procedures to contain expenditures, reduce operational and administrative costs, reduce its funding shortfalls and maximize the use of resources;

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<sup>51</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/49/13)*, annex I.

<sup>52</sup> [A/ES-10/794](#).

<sup>53</sup> [A/73/349](#).

<sup>54</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 13A (A/72/13/Add.1)*.

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13. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East<sup>40</sup> and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;
14. *Appeals* to States and organizations for the maintenance of their voluntary contributions to the Agency, as well as an increase in contributions where possible, in particular to the Agency's programme budget, including in the consideration of their allocation of resources for international human rights, peace and stability, development and humanitarian efforts, to support the Agency's mandate and its ability to meet the rising needs of the Palestine refugees and essential associated costs of operations;
15. *Appeals* to States and organizations not currently contributing to the Agency to urgently consider making voluntary contributions in response to the calls of the Secretary-General for expansion of the Agency's donor base, in order to stabilize funding and ensure greater sharing of the financial burden of supporting the Agency's operations, in accordance with the continuing responsibility of the international community as a whole to assist the Palestine refugees;
16. *Calls for* the provision by donors of early annual voluntary contributions, less earmarking, and multi-year funding, in line with the Grand Bargain on humanitarian financing announced at the World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, in May 2016, in order to enhance the Agency's ability to plan and implement its operations with a greater degree of assurance regarding resource flows;
17. *Also calls for* the full and timely funding by donors of the Agency's emergency, recovery and reconstruction programmes as set out in its appeals and response plans;
18. *Requests* the Commissioner-General to continue efforts to maintain and increase traditional donor support and to enhance income from non-traditional donors, including through partnerships with public and private entities;
19. *Encourages* the Agency to explore financing avenues in relation to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;<sup>43</sup>
20. *Urges* States and organizations to actively pursue partnerships with and innovative support for the Agency, including as recommended in paragraphs 47, 48 and 50 of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>40</sup> including through the establishment of endowments, trust funds or revolving fund mechanisms and assistance to the Agency to access humanitarian, development and peace and security trust funds and grants;
21. *Welcomes* pledges by States and organizations to provide diplomatic and technical support to the Agency, including engagement with international and financial development institutions, including the World Bank and the Islamic Development Bank, and, where appropriate, to facilitate support for the establishment of financing mechanisms that can provide assistance to refugees and in fragile contexts, including to meet the needs of the Palestine refugees, and calls for serious follow-up efforts;
22. *Encourages* further progress with regard to the creation of a World Bank multi-donor trust fund, as well as by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation for the establishment of an Islamic Development Bank endowment fund (waqf) to support Palestine refugees through the Agency;
23. *Requests* the Agency to continue to implement efficiency measures through its medium-term strategy and the development of a five-year proposal for stabilizing the Agency's finances, including specific and time-bound measures, and to continue to improve its cost efficiency and resource mobilization efforts;
24. *Calls upon* the members of the Advisory Commission and the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to consider the relevant recommendations in the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>40</sup> including to help the Agency to address resource mobilization challenges and to actively assist the Commissioner-General in the efforts to create sustainable, sufficient and predictable support for the Agency's operations;
25. *Takes note* of the recommendations of the Secretary-General regarding the support provided to the Agency from the regular budget of the United Nations;
26. *Endorses* the efforts of the Commissioner-General to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as is practicable, on an emergency basis and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are internally displaced and in serious need of continuing assistance as a result of recent crises in the Agency's fields of operation;

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27. *Encourages* the Agency to provide increased assistance, in accordance with its mandate, to affected Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic as well as to those who have fled to neighbouring countries, as detailed in the Syrian regional crisis response plans, and calls upon donors to urgently ensure sustained support to the Agency in this regard in the light of the continuing grave deterioration of the situation and the growing needs of the refugees;

28. *Welcomes* the progress made thus far by the Agency in rebuilding the Nahr el-Bared refugee camp in northern Lebanon, and calls for donor funding to enable the expeditious completion of its reconstruction, for the continued provision of relief assistance to those displaced following its destruction in 2007 and for the alleviation of their ongoing suffering through the provision of the necessary support and financial assistance until the reconstruction of the camp is complete;

29. *Encourages* the Agency, in close cooperation with other relevant United Nations entities, to continue to make progress in addressing the needs, rights and protection of children, women and persons with disabilities in its operations, including through the provision of necessary psychosocial and humanitarian support, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>55</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women<sup>56</sup> and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;<sup>57</sup>

30. *Also encourages* the Agency to continue to reduce the vulnerability and improve the self-reliance and resilience of Palestine refugees through its programmes;

31. *Recognizes* the acute protection needs of Palestine refugees across the region, and encourages the Agency's efforts to contribute to a coordinated and sustained response in accordance with international law, including the Agency's development of its protection framework and function in all field offices, including for child protection;

32. *Commends* the Agency for its humanitarian and psychosocial support programmes and other initiatives that provide recreational, cultural and educational activities for children in all fields, including in the Gaza Strip, recognizing their positive contribution, as well as the detrimental impact of the funding shortfall on some emergency assistance provided by the Agency, calls for full support for such initiatives by donor and host countries, and encourages the building and strengthening of partnerships to facilitate and enhance the provision of these services;

33. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply fully with the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;<sup>46</sup>

34. *Also calls upon* Israel to abide by Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations<sup>44</sup> in order to ensure the safety of the personnel of the Agency, the protection of its institutions and the safeguarding of the security of its facilities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, at all times;

35. *Takes note* of the investigations into the incidents affecting the Agency's facilities during the conflict in the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014, and calls for ensuring accountability for all violations of international law;

36. *Urges* the Government of Israel to expeditiously reimburse the Agency for all transit charges incurred and other financial losses sustained as a result of the delays and restrictions on movement and access imposed by Israel;

37. *Calls upon* Israel particularly to cease obstructing the movement and access of the staff, vehicles and supplies of the Agency and to cease levying taxes, extra fees and charges, which affect the Agency's operations detrimentally;

38. *Reiterates its call upon* Israel to fully lift the restrictions impeding or delaying the import of necessary construction materials and supplies for the reconstruction and repair of the remaining damaged or destroyed refugee shelters, and for the implementation of suspended and urgently needed civilian infrastructure projects in refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, noting the alarming figures reflected in the United Nations country team reports of 26 August 2016, entitled "Gaza: two years after" and of July 2017, entitled "Gaza ten years later";

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<sup>55</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>56</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>57</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

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39. *Requests* the Commissioner-General to proceed with the issuance of identification cards for Palestine refugees and their descendants in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

40. *Notes with appreciation* the positive contribution of the Agency's microfinance and job creation programmes, encourages efforts to enhance the sustainability and benefits of microfinance services to a greater number of Palestine refugees, especially in view of the high unemployment rates affecting them, and youth in particular, welcomes the Agency's efforts to streamline costs and increase microfinance services through internal reform efforts, and calls upon the Agency, in close cooperation with the relevant agencies, to continue to contribute to the development of the economic and social stability of the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation;

41. *Reiterates its appeals* to all States, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to continue and to augment their contributions to the programme budget of the Agency, to increase their special allocations for grants and scholarships for higher education to Palestine refugees and to contribute to the establishment of vocational training centres for Palestine refugees, and requests the Agency to act as the recipient and trustee for the special allocations for grants and scholarships;

42. *Calls upon* the Commissioner-General to include, in the annual reporting to the General Assembly, assessments on the progress made to remedy the recurrent funding shortfalls of the Agency and ensure sustained, sufficient and predictable support for the Agency's operations, including through the implementation of the relevant provisions of the present resolution.

#### RESOLUTION 73/95

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/523, para. 16),<sup>58</sup> by a recorded vote of 156 to 6, with 14 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Australia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Guatemala, Honduras, Malawi, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Togo, Vanuatu

#### 73/95. Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and 36/146 C of 16 December 1981 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question,

<sup>58</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

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*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to its resolution [72/83](#) of 7 December 2017,<sup>59</sup> as well as that of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine for the period from 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2018,<sup>60</sup>

*Recalling* that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>61</sup> and the principles of international law uphold the principle that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his or her property,

*Recalling in particular* its resolution [394 \(V\)](#) of 14 December 1950, in which it directed the Conciliation Commission, in consultation with the parties concerned, to prescribe measures for the protection of the rights, property and interests of the Palestine refugees,

*Noting* the completion of the programme of identification and evaluation of Arab property, as announced by the Conciliation Commission in its twenty-second progress report,<sup>62</sup> and the fact that the Land Office had a schedule of Arab owners and a file of documents defining the location, area and other particulars of Arab property,

*Expressing its appreciation* for the preservation and modernization of the existing records, including the land records, of the Conciliation Commission, and stressing the importance of such records for a just resolution of the plight of the Palestine refugees in conformity with resolution [194 \(III\)](#),

*Recalling* that, in the framework of the Middle East peace process, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Government of Israel agreed, in the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993,<sup>63</sup> to commence negotiations on permanent status issues, including the important issue of the refugees,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Palestine refugees are entitled to their property and to the income derived therefrom, in conformity with the principles of equity and justice;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all appropriate steps, in consultation with the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, for the protection of Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel;

3. *Calls once again upon* Israel to render all facilities and assistance to the Secretary-General in the implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned to provide the Secretary-General with any pertinent information in their possession concerning Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel that would assist him in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Urges* the Palestinian and Israeli sides, as agreed between them, to deal with the important issue of Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues within the framework of the final status peace negotiations;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

#### RESOLUTION 73/96

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/524](#), para. 18),<sup>64</sup> by a recorded vote of 78 to 10, with 84 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon,

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<sup>59</sup> [A/73/323](#).

<sup>60</sup> [A/73/296](#).

<sup>61</sup> Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

<sup>62</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes, Annex No. 11*, document [A/5700](#).

<sup>63</sup> [A/48/486-S/26560](#), annex.

<sup>64</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.



Lesotho, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Guatemala, Honduras, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Solomon Islands, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Zimbabwe

#### **73/96. Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories**

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,*

*Guided also by international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,<sup>65</sup> as well as international standards of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>66</sup> and the International Covenants on Human Rights,<sup>67</sup>*

*Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968 and 72/84 of 7 December 2017, and the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council, including resolutions S-12/1 of 16 October 2009,<sup>68</sup> S-21/1 of 23 July 2014<sup>69</sup> and 29/25 of 3 July 2015,<sup>70</sup>*

*Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolution 2334 (2016) of 23 December 2016,*

*Taking into account the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,<sup>71</sup> and recalling in this regard its resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,*

*Recalling the statement of 15 July 1999 and the declarations adopted on 5 December 2001 and on 17 December 2014<sup>72</sup> by the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention, and welcoming initiatives by States parties, both individually and collectively, according to article 1 of the Convention and aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,*

*Recalling also its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,*

*Taking note of the report of the independent international fact-finding mission to investigate the implications of the Israeli settlements on the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,<sup>73</sup>*

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<sup>65</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

<sup>66</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>67</sup> Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>68</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/64/53/Add.1)*, chap. I.

<sup>69</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/69/53)*, chap. VI.

<sup>70</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/70/53)*, chap. II.

<sup>71</sup> See A/ES-10/273 and A/ES-10/273/Corr.1.

<sup>72</sup> A/69/711-S/2015/1, annex.

<sup>73</sup> A/HRC/22/63.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Convinced* that occupation itself represents a gross and grave violation of human rights,

*Noting with deep regret* that 51 years have passed since the onset of the Israeli occupation, and stressing the urgent need for efforts to reverse the negative trends on the ground and to restore a political horizon for advancing and accelerating meaningful negotiations aimed at the achievement of a peace agreement that will bring a complete end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and the resolution of all core final status issues, without exception, leading to a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive solution for the question of Palestine,

*Recognizing* that the occupation and ensuing persistent and systematic violations of international law by Israel, including international humanitarian and human rights law, are considered to be the main sources of other Israeli violations and discriminatory policies against the Palestinian civilian population in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

*Gravely concerned* about the continuing detrimental impact of ongoing unlawful Israeli practices and measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including the excessive use of force by the Israeli occupying forces against Palestinian civilians, resulting in the death and injury of civilians and the widespread destruction of property and vital infrastructure, including during the Israeli military operations in the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014, as well as ongoing settlement activities and construction of the wall, the internal forced displacement of civilians, the imposition of collective punishment measures, particularly against the civilian population in the Gaza Strip, where continuing severe restrictions on movement amount to a blockade, and the detention and imprisonment of thousands of Palestinians,

*Expressing grave concern* about tensions, instability and violence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, due to the illegal policies and practices of Israel, the occupying Power, including, in particular, provocations and incitements regarding the holy places of Jerusalem, including the Haram al-Sharif,

*Gravely concerned* about all acts of violence, intimidation and provocation by Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians and properties, including homes, mosques, churches and agricultural lands,

*Gravely concerned also* by reports regarding serious human rights violations and grave breaches of international humanitarian law,<sup>74</sup>

*Recalling* the report of the independent commission of inquiry established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution S-21/1,<sup>75</sup> and stressing the imperative of ensuring accountability for all violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law in order to end impunity, ensure justice, deter further violations, protect civilians and promote peace,

*Having considered* the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories<sup>76</sup> and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,<sup>77</sup>

*Recalling* the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993<sup>78</sup> and the subsequent implementation agreements between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

*Stressing* the urgency of bringing a complete end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967, and thus an end to the violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people, and of allowing for the realization of their inalienable human rights, including their right to self-determination and their independent State,

*Taking note* of the application of Palestine for admission to membership in the United Nations, submitted on 23 September 2011,<sup>79</sup>

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<sup>74</sup> See [A/63/855-S/2009/250](#) and [A/HRC/12/48](#).

<sup>75</sup> [A/HRC/29/52](#).

<sup>76</sup> [A/73/499](#).

<sup>77</sup> [A/73/357](#), [A/73/364](#), [A/73/410](#) and [A/73/420](#).

<sup>78</sup> [A/48/486-S/26560](#), annex.

<sup>79</sup> [A/66/371-S/2011/592](#).

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Recalling* its resolution [67/19](#) of 29 November 2012, by which, inter alia, Palestine was accorded non-member observer State status in the United Nations, and taking note of the follow-up report of the Secretary-General,

*Noting* the accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law conventions, as well as other international treaties,<sup>80</sup>

1. *Commends* the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories for its impartiality and efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly, in spite of the obstruction of its mandate;

2. *Reiterates its demand* that Israel, the occupying Power, cooperate, in accordance with its obligations as a State Member of the United Nations, with the Special Committee in implementing its mandate, and deplores the continued lack of cooperation in this regard;

3. *Deplores* those policies and practices of Israel that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the occupied territories, as reflected in the report of the Special Committee covering the reporting period;<sup>76</sup>

4. *Expresses grave concern* about the critical situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly in the Gaza Strip, as a result of unlawful Israeli practices and measures, and especially condemns and calls for the immediate cessation of all illegal Israeli settlement activities and the construction of the wall, the lifting of the blockade of the Gaza Strip, as well as a complete cessation of the excessive and indiscriminate use of force and military operations against the civilian population, settler violence, the destruction and confiscation of properties, including home demolitions as a measure of reprisal, the forced displacement of civilians, all measures of collective punishment, and the detention and imprisonment of thousands of civilians;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee, pending complete termination of the Israeli occupation, to continue to investigate Israeli policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, especially Israeli violations of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,<sup>65</sup> and to consult, as appropriate, with the International Committee of the Red Cross, according to its regulations, in order to ensure that the welfare and human rights of the peoples of the occupied territories, including prisoners and detainees, are safeguarded, and to report to the Secretary-General as soon as possible and whenever the need arises thereafter;

6. *Also requests* the Special Committee to submit regularly to the Secretary-General periodic reports on the current situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

7. *Further requests* the Special Committee to continue to investigate the treatment and status of the thousands of prisoners and detainees, including children, women and elected representatives, in Israeli prisons and detention centres in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, and expresses grave concern about harsh conditions and ill-treatment of prisoners and recent hunger strikes, stressing the need for respect for all applicable rules of international law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention,<sup>65</sup> the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules)<sup>81</sup> and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules);<sup>82</sup>

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To provide the Special Committee with all necessary facilities, including those required for its visits to the occupied territories, so that it may investigate the Israeli policies and practices referred to in the present resolution;

(b) To utilize his good offices to facilitate and support the Special Committee in carrying out its mandate;

(c) To continue to make available such staff as may be necessary to assist the Special Committee in the performance of its tasks;

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<sup>80</sup> [A/67/738](#).

<sup>81</sup> Resolution [70/175](#), annex.

<sup>82</sup> Resolution [65/229](#), annex.

(d) To circulate regularly to Member States the periodic reports mentioned in paragraph 6 above;

(e) To ensure the widest circulation of the reports of the Special Committee and of information regarding its activities and findings, by all means available, through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and, where necessary, to reprint those reports of the Special Committee that are no longer available;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories”.

#### RESOLUTION 73/97

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/524, para. 18),<sup>83</sup> by a recorded vote of 158 to 6, with 14 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Australia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Guatemala, Haiti, Liberia, Malawi, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Togo, Vanuatu

#### **73/97. Applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions, including resolution 72/85 of 7 December 2017,

*Bearing in mind* the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

*Recalling* the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention IV of 1907, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,<sup>84</sup> and relevant provisions of customary law, including those codified in Additional Protocol I<sup>85</sup> to the four Geneva Conventions,<sup>86</sup>

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<sup>83</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

<sup>84</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

<sup>85</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1125, No. 17512.

<sup>86</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Having considered* the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories<sup>87</sup> and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,<sup>88</sup>

*Considering* that the promotion of respect for the obligations arising from the Charter of the United Nations and other instruments and rules of international law is among the basic purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Recalling* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice,<sup>89</sup> and also recalling General Assembly resolution [ES-10/15](#) of 20 July 2004,

*Noting in particular* the Court's reply, including that the Fourth Geneva Convention<sup>84</sup> is applicable in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and that Israel is in breach of several of the provisions of the Convention,

*Recalling* the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, held on 15 July 1999, as well as the declarations adopted by the reconvened Conference on 5 December 2001 and on 17 December 2014,<sup>90</sup> and the urgent need for the parties to follow up the implementation of those declarations,

*Welcoming and encouraging* the initiatives by States parties to the Convention, both individually and collectively, according to article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions, aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention, as well as the continuing efforts of the depositary State of the Geneva Conventions in this regard,

*Noting* the accession by Palestine on 1 April 2014 to the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocol I,

*Stressing* that Israel, the occupying Power, should comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,<sup>84</sup> is applicable to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Demands* that Israel accept the de jure applicability of the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, and that it comply scrupulously with the provisions of the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* all High Contracting Parties to the Convention, in accordance with article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions<sup>86</sup> and as mentioned in the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 9 July 2004,<sup>89</sup> to continue to exert all efforts to ensure respect for its provisions by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

4. *Notes* the reconvening by Switzerland, the depositary State, of the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on 17 December 2014, and calls for efforts to uphold the obligations reaffirmed in the declarations adopted on 5 December 2001 and 17 December 2014;<sup>90</sup>

5. *Welcomes* initiatives by States parties, in accordance with article 1 of the Convention, aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention;

6. *Reiterates* the need for speedy implementation of the relevant recommendations contained in the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, including at its tenth emergency special session and including resolution [ES-10/15](#), with regard to ensuring respect by Israel, the occupying Power, for the provisions of the Convention;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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<sup>87</sup> [A/73/499](#).

<sup>88</sup> [A/73/357](#), [A/73/364](#), [A/73/410](#) and [A/73/420](#).

<sup>89</sup> See [A/ES-10/273](#) and [A/ES-10/273/Corr.1](#).

<sup>90</sup> [A/69/711-S/2015/1](#), annex.

### RESOLUTION 73/98

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/524, para. 18),<sup>91</sup> by a recorded vote of 154 to 6, with 15 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Australia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Liberia, Malawi, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Togo, Vanuatu

#### **73/98. Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan**

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions, including resolution 72/86 of 7 December 2017, as well as those resolutions adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

*Recalling also* the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 446 (1979) of 22 March 1979, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980, 476 (1980) of 30 June 1980, 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981, 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994 and 2334 (2016) of 23 December 2016,

*Reaffirming* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,<sup>92</sup> to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan,

*Affirming* that the transfer by the occupying Power of parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies constitutes a breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention<sup>93</sup> and relevant provisions of customary law, including those codified in Additional Protocol I<sup>94</sup> to the four Geneva Conventions,<sup>94</sup>

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<sup>91</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

<sup>92</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

<sup>93</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1125, No. 17512.

<sup>94</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.



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*Recalling* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,<sup>95</sup> and recalling also General Assembly resolutions [ES-10/15](#) of 20 July 2004 and [ES-10/17](#) of 15 December 2006,

*Noting* that the International Court of Justice concluded that “the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (including East Jerusalem) have been established in breach of international law”,<sup>96</sup>

*Taking note* of the recent reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967,<sup>97</sup>

*Recalling* the report of the independent international fact-finding mission to investigate the implications of the Israeli settlements on the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,<sup>98</sup>

*Recalling also* the statement of 15 July 1999 and the declarations adopted on 5 December 2001 and on 17 December 2014<sup>99</sup> by the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

*Recalling further* the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993<sup>100</sup> and the subsequent implementation agreements between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

*Recalling* the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,<sup>101</sup> and emphasizing specifically its call for a freeze on all settlement activity, including so-called natural growth, and the dismantlement of all settlement outposts erected since March 2001, and the need for Israel to uphold its obligations and commitments in this regard,

*Recalling also* its resolution [67/19](#) of 29 November 2012,

*Noting* the accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law conventions, as well as other international treaties,

*Aware* that Israeli settlement activities involve, inter alia, the transfer of nationals of the occupying Power into the occupied territories, the confiscation of land, the forced transfer of Palestinian civilians, including Bedouin families, the exploitation of natural resources, the fragmentation of territory and other actions against the Palestinian civilian population and the civilian population in the occupied Syrian Golan that are contrary to international law,

*Bearing in mind* the extremely detrimental impact of Israeli settlement policies, decisions and activities on the ongoing regional and international efforts to resume and advance the peace process, on the prospects for the achievement of peace in the Middle East in accordance with the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, on the basis of the pre-1967 borders, and on the viability and credibility of that solution,

*Expressing grave concern* about the continuation by Israel, the occupying Power, of settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and condemning those activities as violations of international humanitarian law, relevant United Nations resolutions, the agreements reached between the parties and obligations under the Quartet road map and as actions in defiance of the calls by the international community to cease all settlement activities,

*Deploing in particular* Israel’s construction and expansion of settlements in and around occupied East Jerusalem, including its so-called E-1 plan that aims to connect its illegal settlements around and further isolate

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<sup>95</sup> See [A/ES-10/273](#) and [A/ES-10/273/Corr.1](#).

<sup>96</sup> *Ibid.*, advisory opinion, para. 120.

<sup>97</sup> [A/HRC/34/70](#); see also [A/72/556](#).

<sup>98</sup> [A/HRC/22/63](#).

<sup>99</sup> [A/69/711-S/2015/1](#), annex.

<sup>100</sup> [A/48/486-S/26560](#), annex.

<sup>101</sup> [S/2003/529](#), annex.

occupied East Jerusalem, the continuing demolition of Palestinian homes and eviction of Palestinian families from the city, the revocation of Palestinian residency rights in the city, and ongoing settlement activities in the Jordan Valley, all of which further fragment and undermine the contiguity of the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

*Deploring* the plans to demolish the Palestinian village of Khan al-Ahmar, in contravention of international law, which would have serious consequences with regard to the displacement of its residents, severely threaten the viability of the two-State solution and undermine the prospect of peace, given the area's sensitive location and importance for preserving the contiguity of the Palestinian territory, and demanding the cessation of such plans,

*Taking note* of the Quartet report of 1 July 2016,<sup>102</sup> and stressing its recommendations, as well as its recent statements, including of 30 September 2015, 23 October 2015, 12 February 2016 and 23 September 2016, in which the Quartet members concluded that, inter alia, the continuing policy of settlement construction and expansion, designation of land for exclusive Israeli use and denial of Palestinian development, including the recent high rate of demolitions, are steadily eroding the two-State solution,

*Deploring* the continuing unlawful construction by Israel of the wall inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and expressing its concern, in particular, about the route of the wall in departure from the Armistice Line of 1949 and in such a way as to include the great majority of the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and which is causing humanitarian hardship and a serious decline of socioeconomic conditions for the Palestinian people, is fragmenting the territorial contiguity of the Territory and undermining its viability, and could prejudice future negotiations and make the two-State solution physically impossible to implement,

*Condemning* acts of violence and terror against civilians on both sides, and recalling the need to end all acts of violence, including acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction,

*Condemning also* all acts of violence, destruction, harassment, provocation and incitement by Israeli settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, against Palestinian civilians, including children, and their properties, including historic and religious sites, and agricultural lands, as well as acts of terror by several extremist Israeli settlers, and calling for accountability for the illegal actions perpetrated in this regard,

*Taking note* of the relevant reports of the Secretary-General, including pursuant to Security Council resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#),<sup>103</sup>

*Noting* the special meeting of the Security Council convened on 26 September 2008, as well as the meeting of the Council of 18 February 2011,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan are illegal and an obstacle to peace and economic and social development;

2. *Calls upon* Israel to accept the de jure applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,<sup>92</sup> to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan and to abide scrupulously by the provisions of the Convention, in particular article 49, and to comply with all of its obligations under international law and cease immediately all actions causing the alteration of the character, status and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the occupied Syrian Golan;

3. *Reiterates its demand* for the immediate and complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and calls in this regard for the full implementation of all the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including, inter alia, resolutions [446 \(1979\)](#), [452 \(1979\)](#) of 20 July 1979, [465 \(1980\)](#), [476 \(1980\)](#), [1515 \(2003\)](#) of 19 November 2003 and [2334 \(2016\)](#);

4. *Recalls* the affirmation by the Security Council, in its resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#), that it will not recognize any changes to the 4 June 1967 lines, including with regard to Jerusalem, other than those agreed by the parties through negotiations;

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<sup>102</sup> [S/2016/595](#), annex.

<sup>103</sup> [A/73/357](#), [A/73/364](#), [A/73/410](#) and [A/73/420](#).

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5. *Condemns* settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan and any activities involving the confiscation of land, the disruption of the livelihood of protected persons, the forced transfer of civilians and the de facto annexation of land;
6. *Calls for* the consideration of measures of accountability, in accordance with international law, in the light of continued non-compliance with the demands for a complete and immediate cessation of all settlement activities, which are illegal under international law, constitute an obstacle to peace and threaten to make a two-State solution impossible, stressing that compliance with and respect for international humanitarian law and international human rights law is a cornerstone for peace and security in the region;
7. *Stresses* that a complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities is essential for salvaging the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders, and calls for affirmative steps to be taken immediately to reverse the negative trends on the ground that are imperilling the viability of the two-State solution;
8. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice;<sup>95</sup>
9. *Reiterates its call for* the prevention of all acts of violence, destruction, harassment and provocation by Israeli settlers, especially against Palestinian civilians and their properties, including historic and religious sites and including in Occupied East Jerusalem, and their agricultural lands;
10. *Calls for* accountability for the illegal actions perpetrated by Israeli settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and stresses in this regard the need for the implementation of Security Council resolution 904 (1994), in which the Council called upon Israel, the occupying Power, to continue to take and implement measures, including the confiscation of arms, aimed at preventing illegal acts of violence by Israeli settlers, and called for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians in the occupied territory;
11. *Stresses* the responsibility of Israel, the occupying Power, to investigate all acts of settler violence against Palestinian civilians and their properties and to ensure accountability for these acts;
12. *Calls upon* all States and international organizations to continue to actively pursue policies that ensure respect for their obligations under international law with regard to all illegal Israeli practices and measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly Israeli settlement activities;
13. *Recalls*, in this regard, the statement of 15 July 1999 and the declarations adopted on 5 December 2001 and on 17 December 2014<sup>99</sup> by the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and welcomes in this regard initiatives by States parties, both individually and collectively, in accordance with article 1 of the Convention, aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention;
14. *Also recalls* that the Security Council, in its resolution 2334 (2016), called upon all States to distinguish, in their relevant dealings, between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied since 1967;
15. *Calls upon* all States, consistent with their obligations under international law and the relevant resolutions, and bearing in mind the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 9 July 2004, not to render aid or assistance in maintaining the situation created by illegal settlement activities;
16. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies to take all necessary measures and actions within their mandates to ensure full respect for and compliance with Human Rights Council resolution 17/4 of 16 June 2011,<sup>104</sup> concerning the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights<sup>105</sup> and other relevant international laws and standards, and to ensure the implementation of the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework, which provides a global standard for upholding human rights in relation to business activities that are connected with Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;
17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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<sup>104</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/66/53)*, chap. III, sect. A.

<sup>105</sup> [A/HRC/17/31](#), annex.

**RESOLUTION 73/99**

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/524](#), para. 18),<sup>106</sup> by a recorded vote of 152 to 8, with 13 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Solomon Islands, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Liberia, Malawi, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, South Sudan, Togo, Vanuatu

**73/99. Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>107</sup>

*Recalling also* the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>108</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights<sup>108</sup> and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>109</sup> and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

*Reaffirming* its relevant resolutions, including resolution [72/87](#) of 7 December 2017, as well as those adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

*Recalling* the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council,

*Recalling also* the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, and stressing the need for their implementation,

*Having considered* the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories<sup>110</sup> and the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Special Committee,<sup>111</sup>

*Taking note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967,<sup>112</sup> as well as of other relevant recent reports of the Human Rights Council,

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<sup>106</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

<sup>107</sup> Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

<sup>108</sup> See resolution [2200 A \(XXI\)](#), annex.

<sup>109</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>110</sup> [A/73/499](#).

<sup>111</sup> [A/73/420](#).

<sup>112</sup> [A/HRC/37/75](#).

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*Taking note also* of the recent report by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan,<sup>113</sup>

*Deeply regretting* that 51 years have passed since the onset of the Israeli occupation, and stressing the urgent need for efforts to reverse the negative trends on the ground and to restore a political horizon for advancing and accelerating meaningful negotiations aimed at the achievement of a peace agreement that will bring a complete end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and the resolution of all core final status issues, without exception, leading to a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive solution of the question of Palestine,

*Aware* of the responsibility of the international community to promote human rights and ensure respect for international law, and recalling in this regard its resolution [2625 \(XXV\)](#) of 24 October 1970,

*Recalling* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,<sup>114</sup> and recalling also relevant General Assembly resolutions,

*Noting in particular* the Court's reply, including that the construction of the wall being built by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and its associated regime are contrary to international law,

*Taking note* of its resolution [67/19](#) of 29 November 2012,

*Noting* the accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law conventions, as well as other international treaties,

*Reaffirming* the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

*Reaffirming also* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,<sup>115</sup> to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

*Reaffirming further* the obligation of the States parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention<sup>115</sup> under articles 146, 147 and 148 with regard to penal sanctions, grave breaches and responsibilities of the High Contracting Parties,

*Recalling* the statement of 15 July 1999 and the declarations adopted on 5 December 2001 and on 17 December 2014<sup>116</sup> by the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

*Reaffirming* that all States have the right and the duty to take actions in conformity with international law and international humanitarian law to counter deadly acts of violence against their civilian population in order to protect the lives of their citizens,

*Stressing* the need for full compliance with the Israeli-Palestinian agreements reached within the context of the Middle East peace process, including the Sharm el-Sheikh understandings, and the implementation of the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,<sup>117</sup>

*Stressing also* the need for the full implementation of the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, both of 15 November 2005, to allow for the freedom of movement of the Palestinian civilian population within and into and out of the Gaza Strip,

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<sup>113</sup> [A/73/87-E/2018/69](#).

<sup>114</sup> See [A/ES-10/273](#) and [A/ES-10/273/Corr.1](#).

<sup>115</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

<sup>116</sup> [A/69/711-S/2015/1](#), annex.

<sup>117</sup> [S/2003/529](#), annex.



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*Gravely concerned* by the tensions and violence in the recent period throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem and including with regard to the holy places of Jerusalem, including the Haram al-Sharif, and deploring the loss of innocent civilian life,

*Recognizing* that security measures alone cannot remedy the escalating tensions, instability and violence, and calling for full respect for international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, including for the protection of civilian life, as well as for the promotion of human security, the de-escalation of the situation, the exercise of restraint, including from provocative actions and rhetoric, and the establishment of a stable environment conducive to the pursuit of peace,

*Expressing grave concern* about the continuing systematic violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people by Israel, the occupying Power, including that arising from the excessive use of force and military operations causing death and injury to Palestinian civilians, including children, women and non-violent, peaceful demonstrators, as well as journalists, medical personnel and humanitarian personnel; the arbitrary imprisonment and detention of Palestinians, some of whom have been imprisoned for decades; the use of collective punishment; the closure of areas; the confiscation of land; the establishment and expansion of settlements; the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory in departure from the Armistice Line of 1949; the destruction of property and infrastructure; the forced displacement of civilians, including attempts at forced transfers of Bedouin communities; and all other actions by it designed to change the legal status, geographical nature and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and demanding the cessation of all such unlawful actions,

*Gravely concerned* by the ongoing demolition by Israel, the occupying Power, of Palestinian homes, as well as of structures, including schools, provided as international humanitarian aid, in particular in and around Occupied East Jerusalem, including if carried out as an act of collective punishment in violation of international humanitarian law, which has escalated at unprecedented rates, and by the revocation of residence permits and eviction of Palestinian residents of the City of Jerusalem,

*Deploring* the continuing and negative consequences of the conflicts in and around the Gaza Strip and the high number of casualties among Palestinian civilians in the recent period, including among children,

*Gravely concerned* about the disastrous humanitarian situation and the critical socioeconomic and security situation in the Gaza Strip, including that resulting from the prolonged closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade and deepen poverty and despair among the Palestinian civilian population, and about the short- and long-term detrimental impacts of this situation and the widespread destruction and continued impeding of the reconstruction process by Israel, the occupying Power, on the human rights situation,

*Expressing grave concern* about the alarming conditions and figures reflected in the United Nations country team reports, of 26 August 2016, entitled “Gaza: two years after”, and of July 2017, entitled “Gaza ten years later”,

*Recalling* the statement by the President of the Security Council of 28 July 2014,<sup>118</sup>

*Stressing* the need for the full implementation by all parties of Security Council resolution [1860 \(2009\)](#) of 8 January 2009 and General Assembly resolution [ES-10/18](#) of 16 January 2009,

*Stressing also* that the situation in the Gaza Strip is unsustainable and that a durable ceasefire agreement must lead to a fundamental improvement in the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, including through the sustained and regular opening of crossing points, and ensure the safety and well-being of civilians on both sides, and regretting the lack of progress made in this regard,

*Gravely concerned* by reports regarding serious human rights violations and grave breaches of international humanitarian law committed during the successive military operations in the Gaza Strip,<sup>119</sup> and reiterating the necessity for serious follow-up by all parties of the recommendations addressed to them towards ensuring accountability and justice,

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<sup>118</sup> [S/PRST/2014/13](#); see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013–31 July 2014 (S/INF/69)*.

<sup>119</sup> See [A/63/855-S/2009/250](#); [S/2015/286](#), annex; [A/HRC/12/48](#); and [A/HRC/29/52](#).



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*Stressing* the need for protection of human rights defenders engaged in the promotion of human rights issues in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, to allow them to carry out their work freely and without fear of attacks and harassment,

*Expressing deep concern* also about the Israeli policy of closures and the imposition of severe restrictions, including through hundreds of obstacles to movement, checkpoints and a permit regime, all of which obstruct the freedom of movement of persons and goods, including medical and humanitarian goods, and the follow-up and access to donor-funded projects of development cooperation and humanitarian assistance, throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and impair the Territory's contiguity, consequently violating the human rights of the Palestinian people and negatively impacting their socioeconomic and humanitarian situation, which remains dire in the Gaza Strip, and the efforts aimed at rehabilitating and developing the Palestinian economy, and calling for the full lifting of restrictions,

*Expressing grave concern* that thousands of Palestinians, including many children and women, as well as elected representatives, continue to be held in Israeli prisons or detention centres under harsh conditions, including unhygienic conditions, solitary confinement, the extensive use of administrative detention of excessive duration without charge and denial of due process, lack of proper medical care and widespread medical neglect, including for prisoners who are ill, with the risk of fatal consequences, and denial of family visits, that impair their well-being, and expressing grave concern also about the ill-treatment and harassment and all reports of torture of any Palestinian prisoners,

*Expressing deep concern* about the hunger strikes by Palestinian prisoners in protest of the harsh conditions of their imprisonment and detention by the occupying Power, while taking note of agreements reached on conditions of detention in Israeli prisons and calling for their full and immediate implementation,

*Recalling* the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules)<sup>120</sup> and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),<sup>121</sup> and calling for respect for those Rules,

*Recalling also* the prohibition under international humanitarian law of the deportation of civilians from occupied territories,

*Deploring* the practice of withholding the bodies of those killed, and calling for the release of the bodies that have not yet been returned to their relatives, in line with international humanitarian law and human rights law, in order to ensure dignified closure in accordance with their religious beliefs and traditions,

*Stressing* the need for the prevention of all acts of violence, harassment, provocation and incitement by extremist Israeli settlers and groups of armed settlers, especially against Palestinian civilians, including children, and their properties, including homes, agricultural lands and historic and religious sites, including in Occupied East Jerusalem, and deploring the violation of the human rights of Palestinians in this regard, including acts of violence leading to death and injury among civilians,

*Convinced* of the need for an international presence to monitor the situation, to contribute to ending the violence and protecting the Palestinian civilian population and to help the parties to implement the agreements reached, and in this regard recalling the positive contribution of the Temporary International Presence in Hebron,

*Stressing* that the protection of civilians is a critical component in ensuring peace and security,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the protection of the Palestinian civilian population<sup>122</sup> and the observations made therein on ways and means for ensuring the safety, protection and well-being of the Palestinian civilian population under Israeli occupation,

*Noting* the continued efforts and tangible progress made in the Palestinian security sector, and noting also the continued cooperation that benefits both Palestinians and Israelis, in particular by promoting security and building confidence,

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<sup>120</sup> Resolution [70/175](#), annex.

<sup>121</sup> Resolution [65/229](#), annex.

<sup>122</sup> [A/ES-10/794](#).

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*Urging* the parties to observe calm and restraint and to refrain from provocative actions, incitement and inflammatory rhetoric, especially in areas of religious and cultural sensitivity, including in East Jerusalem, and to take every possible step to defuse tensions and promote conditions conducive to the credibility and success of the peace negotiations,

*Emphasizing* the right of all people in the region to the enjoyment of human rights as enshrined in the international human rights covenants,

1. *Reiterates* that all measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in violation of the relevant provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,<sup>115</sup> and contrary to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, are illegal and have no validity;

2. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all measures contrary to international law, as well as discriminatory legislation, policies and actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people, including the killing and injury of civilians, the arbitrary detention and imprisonment of civilians, the forced displacement of civilians, including attempts at forced transfers of Bedouin communities, the destruction and confiscation of civilian property, including home demolitions, including if carried out as collective punishment in violation of international humanitarian law, and any obstruction of humanitarian assistance, and that it fully respect human rights law and comply with its legal obligations in this regard, including in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions;

3. *Also demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply fully with the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949<sup>115</sup> and cease immediately all measures and actions taken in violation and in breach of the Convention;

4. *Calls for* urgent measures to ensure the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilian population in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in accordance with the relevant provisions of international humanitarian law and as called for by the Security Council in its resolution 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994;

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the protection of the Palestinian civilian population,<sup>122</sup> notably the observations made therein, including the possible expansion of existing protection mechanisms to prevent and deter violations, and calls for continued efforts within the United Nations human rights framework regarding the legal protection and safety of the Palestinian civilian population;

6. *Calls for* full cooperation by Israel with the relevant special rapporteurs and other relevant mechanisms and inquiries of the Human Rights Council, including the facilitation of entry to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, for monitoring and reporting on the human rights situation therein according to their respective mandates;

7. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all of its settlement activities, the construction of the wall and any other measures aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, all of which, inter alia, gravely and detrimentally impact the human rights of the Palestinian people, and the prospects for achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides, and calls for the full respect and implementation of all relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions in this regard, including Security Council resolution 2334 (2016) of 23 December 2016;

8. *Calls for* urgent attention to the plight and the rights, in accordance with international law, of Palestinian prisoners and detainees in Israeli jails, including those on hunger strike, calls for efforts between the two sides for the further release of prisoners and detainees, and also calls for respect for the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules)<sup>120</sup> and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules);<sup>121</sup>

9. *Condemns* all acts of violence, including all acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction, especially any use of force by the Israeli occupying forces against Palestinian civilians in violation of international law, particularly in the Gaza Strip, which have caused extensive loss of life and vast numbers of injuries, including among children and women;

10. *Also condemns* all acts of violence by militants and armed groups, including the firing of rockets, against Israeli civilian areas, resulting in loss of life and injury;

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11. *Reiterates its demand* for the full implementation of Security Council resolution [1860 \(2009\)](#);
12. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations under international law, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice<sup>114</sup> and as demanded in General Assembly resolutions [ES-10/15](#) of 20 July 2004 and [ES-10/13](#) of 21 October 2003, and that it immediately cease the construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, dismantle forthwith the structure situated therein, repeal or render ineffective all legislative and regulatory acts relating thereto, and make reparations for all damage caused by the construction of the wall, which has gravely impacted the human rights and the socioeconomic living conditions of the Palestinian people;
13. *Reiterates* the need for respect for the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory and for guarantees of the freedom of movement of persons and goods within the Palestinian territory, including movement into and from East Jerusalem, into and from the Gaza Strip, between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and to and from the outside world;
14. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cease its imposition of prolonged closures and economic and movement restrictions, including those amounting to a blockade on the Gaza Strip, and in this regard to fully implement the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, both of 15 November 2005, in order to allow for the sustained and regular movement of persons and goods and for the acceleration of long overdue and massive reconstruction needs and economic recovery in the Gaza Strip, while noting the tripartite agreement facilitated by the United Nations in this regard;
15. *Urges* Member States to continue to provide emergency assistance to the Palestinian people to alleviate the financial crisis and the dire socioeconomic and humanitarian situation, particularly in the Gaza Strip;
16. *Urges* all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their inalienable human rights, including their right to self-determination, as a matter of urgency, in the light of the passage of more than 50 years of the Israeli occupation and the continued denial and violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people;
17. *Emphasizes* the need to preserve and develop the Palestinian institutions and infrastructure for the provision of vital public services to the Palestinian civilian population and the promotion of human rights, including civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, and urges in this regard the implementation of the agreement signed in Cairo on 12 October 2017,<sup>123</sup> which would be an important step towards achieving Palestinian unity and lead to the effective functioning of the Palestinian national consensus government, including in the Gaza Strip, under the leadership of President Mahmoud Abbas, consistent with the Palestine Liberation Organization commitments and the Quartet principles;
18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including with regard to the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories.

#### RESOLUTION 73/100

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/524](#), para. 18),<sup>124</sup> by a recorded vote of 149 to 2, with 22 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica,

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<sup>123</sup> [S/2017/899](#), annex.

<sup>124</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe and State of Palestine.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Australia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Liberia, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Togo, Tonga, Vanuatu

#### 73/100. The occupied Syrian Golan

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories,<sup>125</sup>

*Deeply concerned* that the Syrian Golan, occupied since 1967, has been under continued Israeli military occupation,

*Recalling* Security Council resolution [497 \(1981\)](#) of 17 December 1981,

*Recalling also* its previous relevant resolutions, the most recent of which was resolution [72/88](#) of 7 December 2017,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of resolution [72/88](#),<sup>126</sup>

*Recalling* its previous relevant resolutions in which, inter alia, it called upon Israel to put an end to its occupation of the Arab territories,

*Reaffirming once more* the illegality of the decision of 14 December 1981 taken by Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan, which has resulted in the effective annexation of that territory,

*Reaffirming* that the acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under international law, including the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming also* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,<sup>127</sup> to the occupied Syrian Golan,

*Bearing in mind* Security Council resolution [237 \(1967\)](#) of 14 June 1967,

*Welcoming* the convening at Madrid of the Peace Conference on the Middle East on the basis of Security Council resolutions [242 \(1967\)](#) of 22 November 1967 and [338 \(1973\)](#) of 22 October 1973 aimed at the realization of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace, and expressing grave concern about the stalling of the peace process on all tracks,

1. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply with the relevant resolutions on the occupied Syrian Golan, in particular Security Council resolution [497 \(1981\)](#), in which the Council, inter alia, decided that the Israeli decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan was null and void and without international legal effect and demanded that Israel, the occupying Power, rescind forthwith its decision;

2. *Also calls upon* Israel to desist from changing the physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan and in particular to desist from the establishment of settlements;

<sup>125</sup> [A/73/499](#).

<sup>126</sup> [A/73/357](#).

<sup>127</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

3. *Determines* that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken or to be taken by Israel, the occupying Power, that purport to alter the character and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan are null and void, constitute a flagrant violation of international law and of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,<sup>127</sup> and have no legal effect;

4. *Calls upon* Israel to desist from imposing Israeli citizenship and Israeli identity cards on the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan, and from its repressive measures against the population of the occupied Syrian Golan;

5. *Deplores* the violations by Israel of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;

6. *Calls once again upon* Member States not to recognize any of the legislative or administrative measures and actions referred to above;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

#### RESOLUTION 73/101

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/526, para. 9)<sup>128</sup>

#### 73/101. Comprehensive review of special political missions

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolutions 67/123 of 18 December 2012, 68/85 of 11 December 2013, 69/95 of 5 December 2014, 70/92 of 9 December 2015, 71/100 of 6 December 2016 and 72/89 of 7 December 2017 on the comprehensive review of special political missions,

*Reaffirming its commitment* to respecting the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States,

*Recalling* the primary role of the United Nations and the respective roles and authority of the General Assembly and the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter, and recalling also in this context the contribution of regional and subregional arrangements and the important role they can play, as appropriate,

*Recalling also* the adoption by the General Assembly and the Security Council of substantively identical resolutions 70/262 and 2282 (2016) of 27 April 2016, further recalling the adoption of resolutions 72/276 and 2413 (2018) of 26 April 2018 on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, and recognizing in this regard the important role played by special political missions in the area of sustaining peace, as a goal and a process, where mandated,

*Recognizing* the important role of the special political missions as a flexible tool for the maintenance of international peace and security, including through contributions to a comprehensive approach to peacebuilding and sustaining peace,

*Noting* that the relevant reforms, in particular of the peace and security pillar, are an opportunity to further advance and strengthen the work of special political missions in all mandated tasks, including in conflict prevention, and stressing that actions by the United Nations should support and complement, as appropriate, the conflict prevention roles of national Governments,

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<sup>128</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.



### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Encouraging* enhanced exchanges of information, in an appropriate manner, among the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Secretariat, making use of the advisory role of the Peacebuilding Commission, when relevant, on overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions,

*Reaffirming* the principles of impartiality, consent of the parties, national ownership and national responsibility, and stressing the significance of the views of and dialogue with countries hosting special political missions,

*Recalling* the relevant reports on the review of arrangements for funding and backstopping special political missions,<sup>129</sup> which addressed the financial and administrative arrangements pertaining to such missions, recognizing that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters,

*Recognizing*, in this regard, the importance of adequately resourcing the peacebuilding components of relevant special political missions, including during mission transitions and drawdown, to support the stability and continuity of peacebuilding activities,

*Stressing* the need for the United Nations to continue to improve its capabilities in the pacific settlement of disputes, including mediation, conflict prevention, conflict resolution, peacebuilding and sustaining peace, for the maintenance of international peace and security,

*Acknowledging* the significant increase in the number and complexity of special political missions and the challenges faced by them,

*Recognizing* the need for system-wide coherence between special political missions and the United Nations system, and emphasizing the importance of close cooperation between special political missions, peacekeeping operations and United Nations country teams for maintaining sustainable peace, conflict prevention and conflict resolution,

*Recognizing also* the need for special political missions to operate under clear, credible and achievable mandates, including through the articulation of their goals and purposes, and the need to review their progress as stipulated in their respective mandates,

*Stressing* the need for, as relevant, enhanced coordination and cooperation between special political missions and concerned regional and subregional organizations, particularly leveraging ongoing strategic partnerships, to take concrete measures to strengthen mechanisms for conflict prevention, management and resolution, and emphasizing the need to build and strengthen human and institutional capacities at the national, subregional and regional levels,

*Recognizing* the importance of efforts towards improving broad geographical representation, gender balance and expertise in the composition of all special political missions, and acknowledging the necessity of reducing the overall environmental footprint of relevant special political missions,

*Recalling* the relevant resolutions on women, peace and security, reaffirming the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding, and recognizing the importance of the equal and effective participation and the full involvement of women at all levels, at all stages and in all aspects of the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and conflict resolution,

*Recalling also* the relevant resolutions on youth, peace and security, and affirming the important role that youth can play in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and as a key aspect of the sustainability, inclusiveness and success of peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts,

*Noting* the approval of the restructuring of the peace and security architecture within the Secretariat, particularly the endorsement of the establishment of the new Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and the Department of Peace Operations and of the new single, regional political-operational structure that will be shared between both Departments, in accordance with General Assembly resolution [72/262](#) C of 5 July 2018,

*Noting also* that the relevant reform efforts within the United Nations should ensure a more coordinated approach to strengthen the ability of special political missions to deliver on their mandates and should contribute to ensuring enhanced accountability, coherence and effectiveness of special political missions,

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<sup>129</sup> [A/66/340](#) and [A/66/7/Add.21](#).



### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution [72/89](#);<sup>130</sup>
2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to hold regular, inclusive and interactive dialogue on the overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions, and requests the Secretariat to reach out to Member States prior to the holding of such dialogue to ensure wide and meaningful participation;
3. *Respects* the purview of the mandate of special political missions, as stipulated in the respective relevant resolutions, recognizes the specificity of each mandate of such missions, and emphasizes the role of the General Assembly in discussing the overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions;
4. *Acknowledges* the importance of strong coordination, coherence and cooperation of the Security Council and the General Assembly with the Peacebuilding Commission, and in this regard notes the intention and recent practice of the Security Council to regularly request, deliberate and draw upon the specific, strategic and targeted advice of the Commission, including to assist with the longer-term perspective required for sustaining peace being reflected in the formation, review and drawdown of peacekeeping operations and special political missions mandates, in line with General Assembly resolution [70/262](#) and Security Council resolution [2282 \(2016\)](#);
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-fourth session, a timely report on the implementation of the present resolution regarding the overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions, including efforts towards improving expertise and effectiveness, transparency, accountability, geographical representation, gender perspective and the equal participation of women, as well as youth participation, and in this regard also requests the Secretary-General to include relevant detailed information on these matters in the report;
6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in the aforementioned report information on the implementation of the reforms in the Organization in relation to special political missions;
7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Comprehensive review of special political missions” and to consider the above-mentioned report of the Secretary-General under that item.

#### RESOLUTIONS 73/102 A and B

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/472](#), para. 9)<sup>131</sup>

#### 73/102. Questions relating to information

##### A

##### Information in the service of humanity

*The General Assembly,*

*Taking note* of the comprehensive and important report of the Committee on Information,<sup>132</sup>

*Taking note also* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>133</sup>

*Urges* all countries, organizations of the United Nations system as a whole and all others concerned, reaffirming their commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the principles of freedom of the press and freedom of information, as well as to those of the independence, pluralism and diversity of the media, deeply concerned by the disparities existing between developed and developing countries and the consequences of every kind arising from those disparities that affect the capability of the public, private or other media and individuals in developing countries to disseminate information and communicate their views and their cultural and ethical values

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<sup>130</sup> [A/73/337](#).

<sup>131</sup> The draft resolutions recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee were submitted by the Committee on Information.

<sup>132</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 21 (A/73/21)*.

<sup>133</sup> [A/73/288](#).

through endogenous cultural production, as well as to ensure the diversity of sources and their free access to information, and recognizing the call in this context for what in the United Nations and at various international forums has been termed “a new world information and communication order, seen as an evolving and continuous process”:

(a) To cooperate and interact with a view to reducing existing disparities in information flows at all levels by increasing assistance for the development of communications infrastructures and capabilities in developing countries, with due regard for their needs and the priorities attached to such areas by those countries, and in order to enable them and the public, private or other media in developing countries to develop their own information and communications policies freely and independently and increase the participation of media and individuals in the communication process, and to ensure a free flow of information at all levels;

(b) To ensure for journalists the free and effective performance of their professional tasks and condemn resolutely all attacks against them;

(c) To provide support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes for broadcasters and journalists from public, private and other media in developing countries;

(d) To enhance regional efforts and cooperation among developing countries, as well as cooperation between developed and developing countries, to strengthen communications capacities and to improve the media infrastructure and communications technology in developing countries, especially in the areas of training and dissemination of information;

(e) To aim at, in addition to bilateral cooperation, providing all possible support and assistance to developing countries and their media, public, private or other, with due regard to their interests and needs in the field of information and to action already adopted within the United Nations system, including:

(i) The development of the human and technical resources that are indispensable for the improvement of information and communications systems in developing countries and support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes, such as those already operating under both public and private auspices throughout the developing world;

(ii) The creation of conditions that will enable developing countries and their media, public, private or other, to have, by using their national and regional resources, the communications technology suited to their national needs, as well as the necessary programme material, especially for radio and television broadcasting;

(iii) Assistance in establishing and promoting telecommunication links at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, especially among developing countries;

(iv) Facilitation, as appropriate, of access by developing countries to advanced communications technology available on the open market;

(f) To provide full support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which should support both public and private media.

## B

### United Nations public information policies and activities

*The General Assembly,*

*Emphasizing* that the Committee on Information is its main subsidiary body mandated to make recommendations to it relating to the work of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 13 (I) of 13 February 1946, by which the General Assembly established the Department of Public Information, with a view to promoting to the greatest possible extent an informed understanding of the work and purposes of the United Nations among the peoples of the world, and all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly related to the activities of the Department,

*Emphasizing* that the contents of public information and communications should be placed at the heart of the strategic management of the United Nations and that a culture of communications and transparency should permeate all levels of the Organization as a means of fully informing the peoples of the world of the aims and activities of the

United Nations, in accordance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, in order to create broad-based global support for the United Nations,

*Stressing* that the primary mission of the Department of Public Information is to provide, through its outreach activities, accurate, impartial, comprehensive, balanced, timely, relevant and multilingual information to the public on the tasks and responsibilities of the United Nations in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization with the greatest transparency,

*Recalling* its resolutions 72/90 A and B of 7 December 2017, which provided an opportunity to take due steps to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the Department of Public Information and to maximize the use of its resources,

*Expressing its concern* that the gap in information and communications technology between the developed and the developing countries has continued to widen and that vast segments of the population in developing countries are not benefiting from the information and communications technologies that are currently available, and in this regard underlining the necessity of rectifying the imbalances in the present development of and access to information and communications technologies in order to create a more just, equitable, accessible and effective environment in this regard,

*Recognizing* that developments in information and communications technologies open vast new opportunities for economic growth and social development and can play an important role in the eradication of poverty in developing countries, and at the same time emphasizing that the development of these technologies poses challenges and risks and could lead to further rising inequalities within and among countries,

*Recalling* its resolution 71/328 of 11 September 2017 on multilingualism, and emphasizing the importance of making appropriate use of all the official languages of the United Nations in all the activities of the Department of Public Information, including in coordination with other departments of the Secretariat, with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the use of the five other official languages, as well as the importance of ensuring the full and equitable treatment of all the official languages of the United Nations in all the activities of the Department,

## **I Introduction**

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in respect of the public information policies and activities of the United Nations, to continue to implement fully the recommendations contained in relevant resolutions;

2. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations remains the indispensable foundation of a peaceful and just world and that its voice must be heard in a clear and effective manner, and emphasizes the essential role of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in this context;

3. *Underlines* that the reform of the Department of Public Information with a view to adapting its capacity and work to the current trends of global communication should take into account the priorities set out by the Committee on Information as the main subsidiary body mandated to make recommendations relating to the work of the Department, and also underlines in that regard the importance of carrying out appropriate consultations with Member States;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the provision of clear, timely, accurate and comprehensive information by the Secretariat to Member States, upon their request, within the framework of existing mandates and procedures;

5. *Also stresses* that Member States should abstain from using information and communications technologies in contravention of international law, including the Charter of the United Nations;

6. *Reaffirms* the central role of the Committee on Information in United Nations public information policies and activities, including the prioritization of those activities, and decides that recommendations relating to the programme of the Department of Public Information shall originate, to the extent possible, in the Committee and shall be considered by the Committee;

7. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, following the priorities for the period 2018–2019 set out by the General Assembly in its resolution 71/6 of 27 October 2016, to pay particular attention to the promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the Assembly

and recent United Nations conferences, the maintenance of international peace and security, the development of Africa, the promotion of human rights, the effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts, the promotion of justice and international law, disarmament, and drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

8. *Requests* the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres to pay particular attention to the outcomes of the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, the third International Conference on Financing for Development and the annual Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up, the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda and its follow-up by the annual high-level political forum on sustainable development, the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and the progress in implementing their outcomes;

## II

### General activities of the Department of Public Information

9. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Department of Public Information;<sup>134</sup>

10. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to maintain its commitment to a culture of evaluation and to continue to evaluate its products and activities with the objective of enhancing their effectiveness, and to continue to cooperate and coordinate with Member States and the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat;

11. *Reaffirms* the importance of more effective coordination between the Department of Public Information and the Office of the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure consistency in the messages of the Organization;

12. *Notes* the efforts of the Department of Public Information to continue to publicize the work and decisions of the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies, and requests the Department to continue to enhance its working relationship with the Office of the President of the General Assembly;

13. *Encourages* continued collaboration between the Department of Public Information and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the promotion of culture and in the fields of education, the advancement of communication and multilingualism, in accordance with General Assembly resolution [71/328](#), including through multilingual education, as vehicles for sustainable development using existing resources and bridging the existing gap between the developed and the developing countries;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Department of Public Information to work at the local level with other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to enhance the coordination of their communications activities, urges the Department to encourage the United Nations Communications Group to promote linguistic diversity in its work, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its forty-first session on progress achieved in this regard;

15. *Reaffirms* that the Department of Public Information must prioritize its work programme, while respecting existing mandates and in line with regulation 5.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,<sup>135</sup> to focus its message and better concentrate its efforts and to match its programmes with the needs of its target audiences, including the linguistic dimension, on the basis of improved feedback and evaluation mechanisms;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to exert all efforts to ensure that publications and other information services of the Secretariat, including the United Nations website, the United Nations News Service and United Nations social media accounts, contain comprehensive, balanced, objective and equitable information in all

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<sup>134</sup> [A/AC.198/2018/2](#), [A/AC.198/2018/3](#) and [A/AC.198/2018/4](#).

<sup>135</sup> [ST/SGB/2016/6](#).

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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official languages about the issues before the Organization and that they maintain editorial independence, impartiality, accuracy and full consistency with resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly;

17. *Underlines* the critical need to address violations of the relevant international rules and regulations that govern the area of broadcasting, including television, radio and satellite broadcasting, in the most appropriate manner;

18. *Reiterates its request* to the Department of Public Information and content-providing offices of the Secretariat to ensure that United Nations publications are produced in all six official languages, as well as in an environmentally friendly and cost-neutral manner, and to continue to coordinate closely with all other entities, including all other departments of the Secretariat and funds and programmes of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, in order to avoid duplication in the issuance of United Nations publications;

19. *Encourages*, in this regard, the Department of Public Information and the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat to develop new collaborative arrangements to enhance multilingualism in other outputs in a cost-neutral manner, bearing in mind the importance of ensuring the full and equitable treatment of all the official languages of the United Nations, and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its forty-first session;

20. *Emphasizes* that the Department of Public Information should maintain and improve its activities in the areas of special interest to developing countries and, where appropriate, other countries with special needs, and that the activities of the Department should contribute to bridging the existing gap between the developing and the developed countries in the crucial field of public information and communications;

21. *Reiterates* its growing concern that the issuance of daily press releases has not been expanded to all official languages, as requested in previous resolutions and in full respect of the principle of parity of all six official languages, recalls the relevant report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Department of Public Information,<sup>136</sup> and reiterates its request that the Department, as a matter of priority, design a strategy to deliver daily press releases in all six official languages through creative schemes, in a cost-neutral manner and in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, at the latest by the forty-first session of the Committee on Information, and report thereon to the Committee at that session;

22. *Notes* recent trends that contribute to undermining credible, transparent and fact-based information, and encourages the Department of Public Information to continue to promote unbiased and impartial information about the work of the United Nations, to identify specific proposals in this regard and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its forty-first session;

#### **Multilingualism and public information**

23. *Emphasizes* that multilingualism, as a core value of the Organization, entails the active involvement and commitment of all stakeholders, including all United Nations duty stations and offices away from Headquarters;

24. *Underlines* the responsibility of the Secretariat in the mainstreaming of multilingualism into all of its communication and information activities, within existing resources on an equitable basis, calls upon the Department of Public Information to continue to work with the Coordinator for Multilingualism on best practices throughout the Secretariat to fulfil this responsibility, and requests the Secretary-General to report on such best practices and their implementation in his upcoming report to the Committee on Information;

25. *Emphasizes* the importance of making use of all the official languages of the United Nations, ensuring their full and equitable treatment in all the activities of all divisions and offices of the Department of Public Information with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the use of the five other official languages, in this regard reaffirms its request that the Secretary-General ensure that the Department has the necessary capacity in all the official languages to undertake all of its activities, and requests that this aspect be included in future programme budget proposals for the Department, bearing in mind the principle of parity of all six official languages, while respecting the workload in each official language;

26. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Department of Public Information to enhance multilingualism in all of its activities, stresses the importance of ensuring that the texts of all new public United Nations documents in all

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<sup>136</sup> [A/AC.198/2018/3](#).

six official languages, information materials, global promotional campaigns and all older United Nations documents are made available through the United Nations websites and are accessible to Member States without delay, and further stresses the importance of fully implementing its resolution 71/328;

27. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information to continue its ongoing efforts to incorporate the working method of having thematic focal points, currently applied by the language units of the United Nations websites, as a best practice of multilingualism to improve the quality of the content of the websites;

28. *Acknowledges and supports* the continued use by the Department of Public Information of Portuguese, Kiswahili, Urdu, Bangla, Hindi and Persian in addition to the official languages, when appropriate, according to the target audience, with a view to reaching the widest possible spectrum of audiences and extending the United Nations message to all corners of the world in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization;

29. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information to continue its longstanding and ongoing efforts to promote multilingualism through global outreach in languages other than official languages, including by exploring innovative financing options as well as voluntary contributions;

#### **Bridging the digital divide**

30. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to contribute to raising the awareness of the international community of the importance of the implementation of the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society<sup>137</sup> and of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other information and communications technologies can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide, within and among countries, including by commemorating World Telecommunication and Information Society Day on 17 May;

#### **Network of United Nations information centres**

31. *Emphasizes* the importance of the network of United Nations information centres in enhancing the public image of the United Nations, in disseminating messages on the United Nations to local populations, especially in developing countries, bearing in mind that information in local languages has the strongest impact on local populations, and in mobilizing support for the work of the United Nations at the local level;

32. *Welcomes* the work done by the network of United Nations information centres, including the United Nations Regional Information Centre, in favour of the publication of United Nations information materials and the translation of important documents into languages other than the official languages of the United Nations, encourages information centres to continue their important multilingual activities in the interactive and proactive aspects of their work and to develop web pages in local languages, encourages the Department of Public Information to provide the necessary resources and technical facilities, with a view to reaching the widest possible spectrum of audiences and extending the United Nations message to all corners of the world in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization, and encourages the continuation of efforts in this regard;

33. *Stresses* the importance of rationalizing the network of United Nations information centres, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to make proposals in this direction, including through the redeployment of resources where necessary, and to report to the Committee on Information at its successive sessions;

34. *Reaffirms* that the rationalization of United Nations information centres must be carried out on a case-by-case basis in consultation with all concerned Member States in which existing information centres are located, the countries served by those information centres and other interested countries in the region, taking into consideration the distinctive characteristics of each region;

35. *Recognizes* that the network of United Nations information centres, especially in developing countries, should continue to enhance its impact and activities, including through strategic communications support, and calls upon the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of this approach to the Committee on Information at its successive sessions;

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<sup>137</sup> See A/C.2/59/3 and A/60/687.



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36. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, through the United Nations information centres, to strengthen its cooperation with all other United Nations entities at the country level and in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, in order to enhance coherence in communications and to avoid duplication of work;

37. *Stresses* the importance of taking into account the special needs and requirements of developing countries in the field of information and communications technology for the effective flow of information in those countries;

38. *Also stresses* the importance of efforts to strengthen the outreach activities of the United Nations to those Member States remaining outside the network of United Nations information centres, and encourages the Secretary-General, within the context of rationalization, to extend the services of the network of information centres to those Member States;

39. *Further stresses* that the Department of Public Information should continue to review the allocation of both staff and financial resources to the United Nations information centres in developing countries, taking into account the specific needs of the least developed countries in this regard, and requests the Secretary-General to include in the next report comprehensive information on the functioning of the United Nations information centres, including the outcome of the review of the effective and efficient allocation of staff and financial resources to United Nations information centres and the possible measures to improve the operation of the centres in developing countries;

40. *Welcomes* the support of some Member States, including developing countries, in offering, inter alia, rent-free premises for the United Nations information centres because of lack of funding, bearing in mind that such support should not be a substitute for the full allocation of financial resources for the information centres in the context of the programme budget of the United Nations;

41. *Notes* the concern of many Member States regarding the measures taken by the Secretariat in relation to the information centres in Mexico City, Pretoria and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, expresses the hope that these measures will not have an adverse impact on the ability of the centres to act as bridges between the United Nations and local audiences, and therefore requests the Secretary-General to report on the impact of these measures and to explore ways to strengthen the United Nations information centres in Cairo, Mexico City, Pretoria and Rio de Janeiro, keeping in mind the need to do so within existing resources, and encourages the Secretary-General to explore the strengthening of other centres, especially in Africa, in cooperation with the Member States concerned and in a cost-neutral manner;

42. *Recalls* its resolution [64/243](#) of 24 December 2009, in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to establish a United Nations information centre in Luanda as a contribution towards addressing the needs of Portuguese-speaking African countries, and requests the Secretary-General, in coordination with the Government of Angola, to accelerate the establishment of the information centre and report on the operationalization of the centre to the Committee on Information at its forty-first session;

43. *Takes note with appreciation* of the offer made by the Government of the Republic of Korea to host a United Nations information centre, and, noting the report by the Secretary-General to the Committee on Information on the feasibility of the acceptance of such an offer in a cost-effective manner, requests the Department of Public Information to continue its consultation with the Government of the Republic of Korea in this regard;

### III

#### Strategic communications services

44. *Reaffirms* the role of the strategic communications services in devising and disseminating United Nations messages by developing communications strategies, with the overall emphasis on multilingualism from the planning stage, in close collaboration with the substantive departments, United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, in full compliance with their legislative mandates;

#### Promotional campaigns

45. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Department of Public Information in promoting, through its campaigns, issues of importance to the international community, and requests the Department, in cooperation with the countries concerned and with the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to take appropriate measures to enhance world public awareness on, inter alia, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

Development,<sup>138</sup> United Nations reform, the eradication of poverty, sustainable urban development, conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, climate change, conflict prevention, peacekeeping, sustaining peace, peacebuilding, refugees and migrants, people forcibly displaced by conflict and other means that violate human rights and international law, culture and development, disarmament, decolonization, human rights, including gender equality, the rights of children, persons with disabilities and migrant workers, strategic coordination in humanitarian relief, especially in natural disasters and other crises, communicable and non-communicable diseases, the needs of the African continent, the nature of the critical economic and social situation in Africa and the priorities of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,<sup>139</sup> the special needs of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and the countries that have met the criteria for graduation from the least developed country category, the importance of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and the activities that underlie them, such as corruption, embezzlement, fraud, tax evasion, safe havens that create incentives for the transfer abroad of stolen assets, money-laundering and illegal exploitation of natural resources, the identification, freezing and recovery of stolen assets and their return to their countries of origin in a manner consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption,<sup>140</sup> survivors of human trafficking, survivors of modern slavery, combating transnational illicit trafficking, including in cultural heritage, the permanent memorial to the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade, combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, the initiative on a world against violence and violent extremism, dialogue among civilizations, the culture of peace and tolerance and the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, as well as prevention of genocide;

46. *Requests* the Secretariat, especially the Department of Public Information, to contribute to the observance of international days established by the General Assembly, including International Mother Language Day, on 21 February, as proclaimed by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Day of Nowruz, on 21 March, the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade, on 25 March, World Oceans Day, on 8 June, International Mountain Day, on 11 December, the International Day for Tolerance, on 16 November, the International Day of Happiness, on 20 March, the International Day of Non-Violence, on 2 October, International Youth Day, on 12 August, the International Day of Peace, on 21 September, World Press Freedom Day, on 3 May, the Time of Remembrance and Reconciliation for Those Who Lost Their Lives During the Second World War, on 8 and 9 May, the International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust, on 27 January, the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, on 19 June, Nelson Mandela International Day, on 18 July, the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, on 26 September, the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, on 29 November, the International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime, on 9 December, Human Rights Day, on 10 December, the International Day of Family Remittances, on 16 June, International Universal Health Coverage Day, on 12 December, and the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers, on 29 May, and to play a role in raising awareness and promoting these events, in a cost-neutral manner, where appropriate, in accordance with the respective Assembly resolutions;

47. *Requests* the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres to raise broad awareness and to engage in a comprehensive and multilingual promotional campaign and coverage, on an equal basis, of all summits, international conferences and high-level meetings mandated by the General Assembly, including those to be held in 2018;

48. *Recognizes* the communication efforts led by the Department of Public Information in promoting the review conferences of the parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and their preparatory processes, as well as before, during and after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular the production of various multimedia materials, including videos, images and graphics, to promote the summit and the issues before it in the six official languages of the Organization, and in this regard encourages the Department to continue this practice in promoting high-level meetings, including through the use of traditional and new media such as social media, as appropriate;

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<sup>138</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>139</sup> A/57/304, annex.

<sup>140</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

49. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information to engage in a comprehensive promotional campaign in preparation for the next Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to be held in Katowice, Poland, and chaired by Poland, and the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, to be held in Marrakech, Morocco, on 10 and 11 December 2018;

50. *Requests* the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres to continue raising awareness of and to disseminate information, in a cost-neutral manner, on the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, declared by the General Assembly in its resolution [65/119](#) of 10 December 2010;

51. *Recalls* its resolutions [68/237](#) of 23 December 2013 and [69/16](#) of 18 November 2014 on the International Decade for People of African Descent, and requests the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres to continue raising awareness of and to disseminate information on the International Decade, in accordance with the programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade adopted by the General Assembly,<sup>141</sup> in a cost-neutral manner;

52. *Also recalls* its resolution [72/239](#) of 20 December 2017 on the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028), and requests the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres to raise awareness of and to disseminate information on the International Decade;

53. *Further recalls* its resolution [71/178](#) of 19 December 2016 on the proclamation of 2019 as the International Year of Indigenous Languages to draw attention to the critical loss of indigenous languages, and requests the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres to raise awareness of and disseminate information on the International Year in accordance with its action plan;<sup>142</sup>

54. *Underlines* the importance of the Department of Public Information integrating multilingualism in the planning and implementation of promotional campaigns, including the design of logotypes and isologotypes in different languages, where appropriate, as well as the use of hashtags for social media campaigns in more than one language, taking into account the needs of the target audiences;

55. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information to develop partnerships with the private sector and relevant organizations that promote the official languages of the United Nations and other languages, as appropriate, in order to promote the activities of the United Nations in a cost-neutral manner, and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its forty-first session, and in this regard welcomes the partnership with airlines that provide to their customers in-flight programmes featuring United Nations activities;

#### **Role of the Department of Public Information in United Nations peacekeeping operations, special political missions and peacebuilding**

56. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to ensure the active involvement of the Department of Public Information from the planning stage and in all stages of future peacekeeping operations and special political missions through interdepartmental consultations and coordination with other departments and offices of the Secretariat, in particular with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Field Support, the Department of Political Affairs and the Peacebuilding Support Office;

57. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Field Support, the Department of Political Affairs and the Peacebuilding Support Office to continue their cooperation in raising awareness of the new realities, successes and challenges faced by peacekeeping operations, especially multidimensional and complex ones, in peacebuilding efforts and by special political missions, and continues to call upon them to develop and implement a comprehensive communications strategy on current challenges facing United Nations peacekeeping, countries on the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission and special political missions;

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<sup>141</sup> Resolution [69/16](#), annex.

<sup>142</sup> [E/C.19/2018/8](#).

58. *Stresses* the importance of enhancing the public information capacity of the Department of Public Information in the field of peacekeeping operations and special political missions as well as its role, in close cooperation with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Field Support and the Department of Political Affairs, in the process of selecting public information staff for United Nations peacekeeping operations or missions, and in this regard invites the Department of Public Information to second public information staff who have the skills necessary to fulfil the tasks of the operations and special political missions, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical distribution in accordance with Chapter XV, Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter, and to consider views expressed, especially by host countries, when appropriate, in this regard;

59. *Emphasizes* the importance of the peacekeeping gateway on the United Nations website, and requests the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts to support the peacekeeping missions in further developing and maintaining their websites;

60. *Welcomes* promotional campaigns showcasing individual troop-contributing countries, and requests the Secretariat to ensure that all troop- and police-contributing countries are represented;

61. *Recalls* its resolutions [62/214](#) of 21 December 2007 on the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel, [70/268](#) of 14 June 2016 on the comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects, [70/286](#) of 17 June 2016 on cross-cutting issues, [71/134](#) of 13 December 2016 on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission and [71/278](#) of 10 March 2017 on United Nations action on sexual exploitation and abuse, takes note of the report of the Secretary-General<sup>143</sup> and Security Council resolutions [2242 \(2015\)](#) of 13 October 2015 and [2272 \(2016\)](#) of 11 March 2016, requests the Department of Public Information, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Field Support, the Department of Political Affairs and the Peacebuilding Support Office to continue to cooperate in implementing an effective outreach programme to explain the zero-tolerance policy of the Organization regarding sexual exploitation and abuse in accordance with the objectives set out in the aforementioned resolutions and to inform the public of the outcome of all such cases involving United Nations staff and related personnel, including cases where allegations are ultimately found to be legally unproven, requests the Departments and the Office to inform the public of steps taken to protect the rights of the victims and ensure adequate support for the witnesses, in accordance with the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel, and stresses the importance of the Department of Public Information in showcasing the compact proposed between the Secretariat and troop-contributing countries in that regard, as well as all the activities related to the circle of leadership;

62. *Notes* the importance of communication activities and the dissemination of information relating to sustaining peace and peacebuilding efforts, in particular, meetings and activities of the Peacebuilding Commission, country-specific configurations, the Peacebuilding Support Office and the Peacebuilding Fund, and requests the Department of Public Information to enhance its cooperation with these entities in that regard, in particular through increased usage of social media, with a view to widening outreach of their important work and encouraging national ownership;

#### **Role of the Department of Public Information in strengthening dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace as means of enhancing understanding among nations**

63. *Recalls* its resolutions on dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace, and requests the Department of Public Information, while ensuring the pertinence and relevance of subjects for promotional campaigns on this issue, to continue to provide the support necessary for the dissemination of information pertaining to dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace, as well as the initiative on the Alliance of Civilizations, and to take due steps in fostering the culture of dialogue among civilizations, promoting the initiative on a world against violence and violent extremism in accordance with General Assembly resolution [72/241](#) of 20 December 2017, and promoting cultural understanding, tolerance, respect for and freedom of religion or belief and effective enjoyment by all of all human rights and civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development, and requests a briefing by the Secretariat on the measures taken to disseminate information pertaining to dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace, before the next session of the Committee on Information;

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<sup>143</sup> [A/72/751](#) and [A/72/751/Corr.1](#).

64. *Invites* the United Nations system, especially the Department of Public Information, to continue to encourage and facilitate dialogue among civilizations and to formulate ways and means to promote dialogue among civilizations in the activities of the United Nations in various fields, taking into account the Programme of Action of the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations;<sup>144</sup>

65. *Recalls* its resolution 69/312 of 6 July 2015, in which it acknowledged the achievements of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and the efforts of the High Representative of the Secretary-General for the Alliance of Civilizations, as well as the declarations adopted by the Global Forums of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations<sup>145</sup> and welcomes the continuing support of the Department of Public Information for the work of the Alliance, including its ongoing projects;

#### IV

##### News services

66. *Stresses* that the central objective of the news services implemented by the Department of Public Information is the timely delivery of accurate, objective and balanced news and information emanating from the United Nations system in all mass media, including print, radio, television and the Internet, including social media platforms, to the media and other audiences worldwide, with the overall emphasis on multilingualism from the planning stage, and reiterates its request to the Department to ensure that all breaking news stories and news alerts are accurate, impartial and free of bias;

67. *Recognizes* the important role of television and video services provided by the Department of Public Information, and notes the recent efforts in making available online broadcast-quality video that can be streamed or downloaded by smaller broadcast outlets that do not have access to satellite feeds;

##### Traditional means of communication

68. *Welcomes* the sustained efforts of United Nations Radio, which remains one of the most effective and far-reaching traditional media available to the Department of Public Information and an important instrument in United Nations activities, to enhance the timeliness, presentation and thematic focus of its multilingual programmes on United Nations activities and to ensure the widest possible dissemination of its programming to media outlets using the most suitable platforms and formats, pre-recorded or live, requests the Secretary-General to continue to make every effort to achieve parity in the six official languages in United Nations Radio productions, reiterates the important role of the 15-minute daily programmes created pursuant to General Assembly resolution 54/82 B of 6 December 1999, and requests the Department to continue producing and disseminating the programmes, in accordance with client needs;

69. *Also welcomes* the ongoing efforts being made by the Department of Public Information to disseminate programmes directly to broadcasting stations all over the world in the six official languages, with the addition of Portuguese, Kiswahili, Urdu, Bangla and Hindi as well as other languages, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to include in his upcoming report to the Committee on Information detailed information about such partnerships with broadcasting stations as well as statistics about their multiplying impacts on potential audiences;

70. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue to build partnerships with local, national and regional broadcasters to extend the United Nations message to all corners of the world in an accurate and impartial way, and requests the News and Media Division of the Department to continue to take full advantage of modern technologies and equipment;

71. *Welcomes* the completion of an inventory of 68 years of United Nations audiovisual history and, recognizing the importance of the audiovisual archives of the United Nations, stresses the urgency of digitization in order to prevent further deterioration of these unique historical archives, encourages the Department of Public Information to prioritize the development of collaborative arrangements for the digitization of these archives while preserving their multilingual character, in a cost-neutral manner, and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its forty-first session, and welcomes the contribution of Oman<sup>136</sup> in this regard;

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<sup>144</sup> Resolution 56/6, sect. B.

<sup>145</sup> Madrid, Spain; Istanbul, Turkey; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Doha, Qatar; Vienna, Austria; Bali, Indonesia; and Baku, Azerbaijan.



72. *Notes*, in this regard, the proposed strategy for the digitization of the United Nations audiovisual archive materials for long-term preservation, access and sustainable management,<sup>146</sup> and requests the Department of Public Information to submit for consideration by the relevant bodies both a detailed proposal for the mass digitization of the audiovisual collections, within existing resources, and plans to solicit voluntary contributions to fund the digitization and storage of the audiovisual archives;

#### United Nations website

73. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations website is an essential tool for Member States and for the general public, the media, non-governmental organizations and educational institutions, and in this regard reiterates the continued need for strengthened efforts by the Department of Public Information to regularly maintain, update and improve it;

74. *Recognizes* the potential of United Nations websites to offer multilingual and multimedia content, integrating written, spoken and visual elements in all of the official languages, and encourages the Department of Public Information to work towards such an objective;

75. *Also recognizes* the efforts made by the Secretariat to implement the basic accessibility requirements for persons with disabilities to gain access to and take part in the work of the United Nations in person or online, including through the work of the Accessibility Centre at United Nations Headquarters, calls upon the Department of Public Information to continue to work towards compliance with accessibility requirements on all new and updated pages of the website, with the aim of ensuring its accessibility for persons with different kinds of disabilities, and in this regard encourages the Department of Public Information and the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to further cooperate and identify potential synergies;

76. *Reaffirms* the need to achieve full parity among the six official languages on all United Nations websites, and urges the Secretary-General to strengthen his efforts to develop, maintain and update multilingual United Nations websites, including United Nations Web TV, its video content and metadata, and the web page of the Secretary-General in all the official languages of the United Nations, from within existing resources and on an equitable basis;

77. *Notes with concern* that the multilingual development and enrichment of the United Nations website in certain official languages has improved at a much slower rate than expected, and in this regard urges the Department of Public Information, in coordination with content-providing offices, to advance actions taken to achieve full parity among the six official languages on the United Nations website;

78. *Recalls* paragraph 35 of its resolution [71/328](#), notes with concern the disparity between the English and the non-English languages on the websites maintained by the Secretariat, urges the Secretary-General to lead the efforts of all offices and departments of the Secretariat to take concrete action to address such uneven development, and in this regard calls upon all stakeholders, including the Department of Public Information, content-providing offices and departments, in particular the Office of Information and Communications Technology of the Secretariat, to continue their collaboration, within their respective mandates, so as to achieve full parity among the six official languages on all United Nations websites developed and maintained by all Secretariat entities, in full conformity with the principles of multilingualism and in compliance with the relevant resolutions addressing multilingualism and accessibility for persons with disabilities, by making every effort to translate materials currently available only in English and by providing offices and departments with technological solutions that comply with the principle of parity, from within existing resources;

79. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure, while maintaining an up-to-date and accurate website, the equitable distribution among all official languages of financial and human resources within the Department of Public Information allocated to the United Nations website, with full respect for the needs and the specificities of all six official languages;

80. *Welcomes* the cooperative arrangements undertaken by the Department of Public Information with academic institutions to increase the number of web pages available in official and non-official languages, and requests the Secretary-General, in coordination with content-providing offices, to extend such cooperative

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<sup>146</sup> [A/AC.198/2014/3](#), annex.



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arrangements, in a cost-effective manner, to all the official languages of the United Nations, bearing in mind the necessity of adherence to United Nations standards and guidelines;

81. *Encourages* the continuation of live webcasts of public meetings of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and their respective subsidiary bodies, as well as of the Security Council, with interpretation services, and requests the Secretariat to make every effort to provide full access to archived videos in all official languages of all past open formal United Nations meetings with interpretation services, in strict observance of the principle of full parity of the six official languages of the United Nations, to promote transparency and accountability within the Organization;

82. *Reaffirms* the need to enhance the technological infrastructure of the Department of Public Information, including the United Nations information centres, on a continuous basis in order to widen the outreach of the Department and to continue to improve the United Nations website in a cost-neutral manner;

83. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information, in collaboration with the Office of Information and Communications Technology, to continue its efforts to ensure that technological infrastructures and supportive applications in the United Nations fully support Latin, non-Latin and bidirectional scripts in order to enhance the equality of all official languages on the United Nations website;

84. *Underlines* the importance, in the implementation of new communication tools such as social networks, of taking into account the linguistic dimension in order to ensure full parity among the official languages of the Organization, and in that regard stresses the need for United Nations social media campaigns to use hashtags suitable for each language;

85. *Recalls* that, in paragraph 34 of its resolution [71/328](#), the General Assembly welcomed the realization of the comprehensive review of the United Nations websites by the Secretary-General, presenting the status of content in non-official languages, noted with appreciation the innovative ideas, potential synergies and other cost-neutral measures proposed in the report of the Secretary-General on multilingualism<sup>147</sup> to reinforce the broader multilingual development and enrichment of the United Nations websites, as appropriate, and requested the Secretary-General to present an updated version of the review in his next report;

86. *Notes* the uneven development of social media among the official languages of the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its forty-first session on the strategy of the Department of Public Information to ensure, by a more balanced use of all six official languages, that social media contribute to raising awareness of and support for the activities of the Organization, and to include in the report available analytics, classified by official language, on audiences of social media accounts managed by the Secretariat;

## V

### Library services

87. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Department of Public Information to implement the recommendations of its 2011 working group on library improvement;

88. *Commends* the steps taken by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library and the other member libraries of the Steering Committee for the Modernization and Integrated Management of United Nations Libraries to align their activities, services and outputs more closely with the goals, objectives and operational priorities of the Organization, and calls upon the Dag Hammarskjöld Library to work with the other member libraries to devise a new statement of strategy for library services and to replace the former Steering Committee with the Steering Committee for Libraries of the United Nations focused on practical cooperation among the library services;

89. *Reiterates* the need to maintain a multilingual collection of books, periodicals and other materials in both hard copy and electronic formats, accessible to Member States and others, ensuring that the Dag Hammarskjöld Library continues to be a broadly accessible resource for information about the United Nations and its activities, including through a multilingual home page, from within existing resources;

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<sup>147</sup> [A/71/757](#).

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90. *Welcomes* the initiatives taken by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, in its capacity as the focal point, to expand the scope of the regional training and knowledge-sharing workshops organized for the depository libraries in developing countries to include outreach in their activities;

91. *Acknowledges* the role of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library in enhancing knowledge-sharing and networking activities to ensure access to the vast store of United Nations knowledge for delegates, permanent missions of Member States, the Secretariat, researchers and depository libraries worldwide;

92. *Notes* the efforts of the United Nations intranet and iSeek team to raise awareness among staff members of new initiatives and developments in different departments of the Secretariat, and requests the Department of Public Information, as a matter of priority and in the spirit of synergies and efficiency, to study ways of integrating the Member States' e-deleGATE portal into the iSeek platform for more efficient and effective sharing of information with Member States, and to report to the Committee on Information on this issue at its forty-first session;

## VI

### Outreach services

93. *Stresses* that the central objective of the outreach and knowledge services implemented by the Department of Public Information is to promote awareness of the role and work of the United Nations by fostering dialogue with global constituencies, such as academia, civil society, educators, students and youth, with the overall emphasis on multilingualism from the planning stage, in close collaboration with the substantive departments, specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations;

94. *Notes with serious concern* that many outreach and knowledge services are not yet available in all official languages, and in this regard urges the Department of Public Information, as a matter of priority, to mainstream multilingualism into all outreach and knowledge services, bearing in mind the importance of making use of all the official languages of the United Nations and ensuring their full and equitable treatment in all the activities of the Department, with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the use of the five other official languages;

95. *Encourages* the United Nations Academic Impact to take effective steps to facilitate exchanges between the United Nations and institutions of higher education and academic, research and scientific communities in all regions to support the common principles and purposes of the United Nations, contribute to the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, foster global citizenship and fill knowledge gaps, while recognizing the role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its constitution;

96. *Notes* the continued growth of the United Nations Academic Impact, calls upon the Department of Public Information to promote global awareness of the Academic Impact in order to encourage balanced participation among Member States and their continued support for the initiative, within existing resources, and encourages Member States to promote the initiative among their academic institutions, as appropriate, with a view to their joining it, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 72/90 A and B;

97. *Welcomes* the educational outreach activities of the Department of Public Information, and requests the Department to continue to reach educators and young people worldwide through a range of multilingual multimedia platforms including, in particular, in the dissemination of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through the educational system, including elementary schools;

98. *Commends* the United Nations Academic Impact for its continued engagement with the global community of scholarship in realizing the objectives of the Organization, requests the Secretary-General to continue to promote this initiative by encouraging eligible institutions of higher education in all regions, especially from developing countries, to enrol and contribute actively to the goals of the United Nations, and in this regard notes with appreciation the cost-neutral partnerships it has successfully initiated thus far with a view to multiplying membership;

99. *Emphasizes* the importance of the continued implementation by the Department of Public Information of the ongoing Reham Al-Farra Memorial Journalists' Fellowship Programme for broadcasters and journalists from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, as mandated by the General Assembly, and requests the Department to consider how best to maximize the benefits derived from the Programme by extending, inter alia, its duration and the number of its participants;

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100. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information to make the *UN Chronicle* available in paperless editions only, with a view to expanding the service to all six official languages within existing resources, and requests the Department to report to the Committee on Information at its forty-first session on progress in this matter;

101. *Welcomes* the movement towards educational outreach and the orientation of the *UN Chronicle*, and to this end encourages the *UN Chronicle* to continue to develop partnerships and collaborative educational activities and events with civil society organizations and institutions of higher learning;

102. *Acknowledges* the importance of the *Yearbook of the United Nations* as an authoritative reference work, and welcomes the work of the Department of Public Information in expanding the content and the functions of the website of the *Yearbook*;

103. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure that, in view of their income-generating nature, guided tours at United Nations Headquarters are consistently available in all six official languages of the United Nations as well as in non-official languages;

104. *Notes* the ongoing efforts of the Department of Public Information to strengthen its role as a focal point for two-way interaction with civil society relating to the priorities and concerns of the Organization identified by Member States, and also notes in this regard the increasing involvement of civil society in United Nations activities, including the outreach activities directed at youth representatives and young journalists;

105. *Recalls* its resolution 41/68 D of 3 December 1986, commends the World Federation of United Nations Associations and its more than 100 national United Nations associations for the valuable contributions that they have made during the past 72 years through their global activities in the mobilization of popular support for the United Nations, and calls for continued collaboration between the World Federation and the Department of Public Information in support of their complementary objectives;

106. *Commends*, in a spirit of cooperation, the United Nations Correspondents Association for its ongoing activities and for its Dag Hammarskjöld Memorial Scholarship Fund, which sponsors journalists from developing countries to come to United Nations Headquarters and report on the activities during the sessions of the General Assembly, and further encourages the international community to continue its financial support for the Fund;

107. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts and contribution of United Nations Messengers of Peace, Goodwill Ambassadors and other advocates to promote the work of the United Nations and to enhance international public awareness of its priorities and concerns, and calls upon the Department of Public Information to continue to involve them in its global communications and media strategies and outreach activities;

## VII

### Final remarks

108. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its forty-first session and to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the activities of the Department of Public Information and on the implementation of all recommendations and requests contained in the present resolution, and requests the Department of Public Information to provide a briefing in this regard, before the next session of the Committee on Information;

109. *Notes* the initiative taken by the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with the Department of Safety and Security and the Protocol and Liaison Service of the Secretariat, during the annual general debate of the General Assembly, to issue special identification stickers to mission-designated personnel of Member States to enable them to escort media covering the visits of high-level officials to restricted areas, and strongly urges the Secretary-General to continue to improve this practice by acceding to the request by Member States to provide the needed number of additional passes to press and other relevant officers of Member States to allow their access to all areas that are deemed restricted, in order to effectively and comprehensively report on high-level meetings that include officials of delegations of Member States;

110. *Requests* the Committee on Information to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

111. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Questions relating to information”.

### RESOLUTION 73/103

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/473, para. 7),<sup>148</sup> by a recorded vote of 178 to 2, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstaining:* France, Liberia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

#### **73/103. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which it requested the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

*Recalling also* its resolution 72/91 of 7 December 2017, in which it requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII),

*Stressing* the importance of the timely transmission by the administering Powers of adequate information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter, in particular in relation to the preparation by the Secretariat of the working papers on the Territories concerned,

*Mindful* of the non-fulfilment of the obligation to transmit information on some Non-Self-Governing Territories in accordance with Article 73 *e* of the Charter,

*Recalling* its resolution 65/119 of 10 December 2010, on the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, which will end in two and a half years, and stressing in that regard the need to make real progress towards its full implementation,

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>149</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

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<sup>148</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

<sup>149</sup> A/73/64.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

2. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to respect their obligations under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with regard to each Territory on the agenda of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

3. *Also requests* the administering Powers concerned, in accordance with their Charter obligations, to transmit or continue to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General for information purposes, subject to such limitation as security and constitutional considerations may require, statistical and other information of a technical nature relating to the economic, social and educational conditions in the Territories for which they are respectively responsible, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned, including the constitution, legislative act or executive order providing for the government of the Territory and the constitutional relationship of the Territory to the administering Power, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in those Territories;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate information is drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of the working papers relating to the Territories concerned;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under General Assembly resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures.

#### RESOLUTION 73/104

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/474, para. 7),<sup>150</sup> by a recorded vote of 175 to 2, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstaining:* France, Liberia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

#### 73/104. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the item entitled "Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories",

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018 relating to the item,<sup>151</sup>

<sup>150</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

<sup>151</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*, chap. VI.



### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, as well as all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, including, in particular, resolutions 46/181 of 19 December 1991, 55/146 of 8 December 2000 and 65/119 of 10 December 2010,

*Reaffirming* the solemn obligation of the administering Powers under the Charter of the United Nations to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Territories under their administration and to protect the human and natural resources of those Territories against abuses,

*Reaffirming also* that any economic or other activity, including the use of the Non-Self-Governing Territories for military activity, that has a negative impact on the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and on the exercise of their right to self-determination in conformity with the Charter, General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and the other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization is contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter,

*Reaffirming further* that the natural resources are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations,

*Taking into account* General Assembly resolution 1803 (XVII) of 14 December 1962 regarding the sovereignty of peoples over their natural wealth and resources in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

*Aware* of the special circumstances of the geographical location, size and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the need to promote the stability, diversification and strengthening of the economy of each Territory,

*Conscious* of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to hurricanes, natural phenomena or other extreme weather events and environmental degradation,

*Reaffirming its deep concern* at the number and scale of hurricanes, natural phenomena or other extreme weather events and their devastating impact in 2017 in the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Caribbean Sea, resulting in the loss of life and negative economic, social and environmental consequences for their vulnerable societies and hampering the achievement of sustainable development in these Territories, in particular in Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, as well as in Puerto Rico, whose situation is addressed in the Special Committee,

*Stressing* the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and with respect to the implementation of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, and resolution 72/218 of 20 December 2017 on disaster risk reduction,

*Conscious* that foreign economic investment, when undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes, could make a valid contribution to the socioeconomic development of the Territories and also to the exercise of their right to self-determination in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations,

*Concerned* about any activities aimed at exploiting the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories,

*Bearing in mind* the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and with other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, as well as their right to the enjoyment of their natural resources and their right to dispose of those resources in their best interest;

2. *Affirms* the value of foreign economic investment undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes in order to make a valid contribution to the socioeconomic development of the Territories, especially during times of economic and financial crisis;



### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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3. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and reaffirms the legitimate rights of their peoples over their natural resources;

4. *Reaffirms its concern* about any activities aimed at the exploitation of the natural resources that are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations, in the Caribbean, the Pacific and other regions, and of their human resources, to the detriment of their interests, and in such a way as to deprive them of their right to dispose of those resources;

5. *Reaffirms* the need to avoid any economic or other activities, including the use of the Non-Self-Governing Territories for military activity, that adversely affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and in this regard reminds the administering Powers of their responsibility and accountability vis-à-vis any detriment to the interests of the peoples of those Territories, in accordance with relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

6. *Calls once again upon* all Governments that have not yet done so to take, in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and the bodies corporate under their jurisdiction that own and operate enterprises in the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories, in order to put an end to such enterprises;

7. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that the exploitation of the marine and other natural resources in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration is not in violation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and does not adversely affect the interests of the peoples of those Territories;

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to take all possible measures to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

9. *Once again urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all steps necessary to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers concerned to ensure that no discriminatory working conditions prevail in the Territories under their administration and to promote in each Territory a fair system of wages applicable to all the inhabitants without any discrimination;

11. *Also calls upon* the administering Powers concerned to provide all the necessary assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories affected by hurricanes, natural phenomena or other extreme weather events in order to alleviate the humanitarian needs in the affected communities, support the recovery and rebuilding efforts and enhance capabilities for emergency preparedness and risk reduction;

12. *Encourages* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations to continue to provide assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories affected by hurricanes, natural phenomena or other extreme weather events and to formulate appropriate programmes to support emergency response and recovery and rebuilding efforts, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on this matter;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, through all means at his disposal, to inform world public opinion of any activity that affects the exercise of the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter, General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and the other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

14. *Appeals* to trade unions and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals, to continue their efforts to promote the economic well-being of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and also appeals to the media to disseminate information about the developments in this regard;

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

15. *Decides* to follow the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to ensure that all economic activities in those Territories are aimed at strengthening and diversifying their economies in the interest of their peoples, in particular the indigenous populations, and at promoting the economic and financial viability of those Territories;

16. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session.

#### RESOLUTION 73/105

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/475, para. 7),<sup>152</sup> by a recorded vote of 126 to 2, with 55 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

#### **73/105. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

*Having also considered* the report of the Secretary-General<sup>153</sup> and the report of the Economic and Social Council<sup>154</sup> on the item,

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018 relating to the item,<sup>155</sup>

<sup>152</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

<sup>153</sup> A/73/70.

<sup>154</sup> E/2018/56.

<sup>155</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*, chap. VII.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Recalling* its resolutions [1514 \(XV\)](#) of 14 December 1960 and [1541 \(XV\)](#) of 15 December 1960 and the resolutions of the Special Committee, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions, including, in particular, Economic and Social Council resolutions [2016/20](#) of 27 July 2016 and [2017/31](#) of 25 July 2017,

*Bearing in mind* the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

*Conscious* of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#),

*Noting* that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

*Welcoming* the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

*Welcoming also* the participation in the capacity of observers of those Non-Self-Governing Territories that are associate members of regional commissions in the world conferences in the economic and social spheres, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including resolutions and decisions of the Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories,

*Noting* that only some specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system have been involved in providing assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Stressing* that, because the development options of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting those challenges without the continuing cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

*Stressing also* the importance of securing the resources necessary for funding expanded programmes of assistance for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

*Reaffirming* the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all appropriate measures, within their respective responsibilities, to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#) and other relevant resolutions,

*Expressing its appreciation* to the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Caribbean Community and other regional organizations for the continued cooperation and assistance that they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

*Expressing its conviction* that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of programmes of assistance to the peoples concerned,

*Mindful* of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to decolonization,

*Bearing in mind* the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea level rise, and recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

*Recalling* its resolution [72/93](#) of 7 December 2017 on the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations,

*Welcoming* the participation by videoconference of representatives of the United Nations Development Programme and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean at the Pacific regional seminar held in Saint George's from 9 to 11 May 2018, and encouraging further participation by specialized agencies and institutions associated with the United Nations in the future regional seminars of the Special Committee,

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>153</sup>
2. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts through the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;
3. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;
4. *Also reaffirms* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspirations of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;
5. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and requests all the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of those resolutions;
6. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their engagement with the work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples as an important element for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), including participation in the regional seminars on decolonization, upon the invitation of the Special Committee;
7. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories;
8. *Urges* those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have not yet provided assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories to do so as soon as possible;
9. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance for the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;
10. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system concerned to provide information on:
  - (a) Environmental problems facing the Non-Self-Governing Territories;
  - (b) The impact of natural disasters, such as hurricanes and volcanic eruptions, and other environmental problems, such as beach and coastal erosion and droughts, on those Territories;
  - (c) Ways and means to assist the Territories to fight drug trafficking, money-laundering and other illegal and criminal activities;
  - (d) Illegal exploitation of the marine and other natural resources of the Territories and the need to utilize those resources for the benefit of the peoples of the Territories;
11. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit the proposals to their governing and legislative organs;
12. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review at the regular meetings of their governing bodies the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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13. *Recalls* the adoption by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of its resolution 574 (XXVII) of 16 May 1998,<sup>156</sup> calling for the necessary mechanisms for its associate members, including Non-Self-Governing Territories, to participate in the special sessions of the General Assembly, subject to the rules of procedure of the Assembly, to review and assess the implementation of the plans of action of those United Nations world conferences in which the Territories originally participated in the capacity of observer, and in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies;

14. *Requests* the Chair of the Special Committee to deepen cooperation with the President of the Economic and Social Council on the identical agenda items of both bodies on assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, through regular consultations, in accordance with relevant resolutions on decolonization;

15. *Recalls* the publication by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, of an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, which was updated for the United Nations website on decolonization, and requests its continued updating and wide dissemination;

16. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and in providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

17. *Encourages* the Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies, inter alia, with the assistance of the relevant specialized agencies;

18. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate, when appropriate, the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories, so that the Territories may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and organizations;

19. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts through the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assist the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to prepare for submission to the relevant bodies, with the assistance of those agencies and organizations, a report on the action taken in implementation of the relevant resolutions, including the present resolution, since the circulation of his previous report;

21. *Commends* the Economic and Social Council for its debate and resolution on this question, and requests it to continue to consider and intensify its cooperation with the Special Committee, with the aim of developing appropriate measures for the further coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

22. *Requests* the specialized agencies to report annually to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the governing bodies of the appropriate specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations so that those bodies may take the measures necessary to implement it, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session.

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<sup>156</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 21 (E/1998/41)*, sect. III.G.

### RESOLUTION 73/106

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/476, para. 7)<sup>157</sup>

#### **73/106. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 72/94 of 7 December 2017,

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>158</sup> prepared pursuant to its resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954,

*Conscious* of the importance of promoting the educational advancement of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Strongly convinced* that the continuation and expansion of offers of scholarships is essential in order to meet the increasing need of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories for educational and training assistance, and considering that students in those Territories should be encouraged to avail themselves of such offers,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>158</sup>
2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have made scholarships available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories;
3. *Invites* all States to make or continue to make generous offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of those Territories that have not yet attained self-government or independence and, wherever possible, to provide travel funds to prospective students;
4. *Urges* the administering Powers to take effective measures to ensure the widespread and continuous dissemination in the Territories under their administration of information relating to offers of study and training facilities made by States and to provide all the facilities necessary to enable students to avail themselves of such offers;
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution;
6. *Draws* the attention of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution.

### RESOLUTION 73/107

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/532, para. 45)<sup>159</sup>

#### **73/107. Question of Western Sahara**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* in depth the question of Western Sahara,

*Reaffirming* the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

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<sup>157</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, Cuba, Ecuador, Liberia, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Thailand and Vanuatu.

<sup>158</sup> A/73/73.

<sup>159</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chair of the Committee.



### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

*Recalling* its resolution 72/95 of 7 December 2017,

*Recalling also* all resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council on the question of Western Sahara,

*Recalling further* Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) of 27 June 1990, 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, 1359 (2001) of 29 June 2001, 1429 (2002) of 30 July 2002, 1495 (2003) of 31 July 2003, 1541 (2004) of 29 April 2004, 1570 (2004) of 28 October 2004, 1598 (2005) of 28 April 2005, 1634 (2005) of 28 October 2005, 1675 (2006) of 28 April 2006 and 1720 (2006) of 31 October 2006,

*Underlining* the adoption of Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007) on 30 April 2007, 1783 (2007) on 31 October 2007, 1813 (2008) on 30 April 2008, 1871 (2009) on 30 April 2009, 1920 (2010) on 30 April 2010, 1979 (2011) on 27 April 2011, 2044 (2012) on 24 April 2012, 2099 (2013) on 25 April 2013, 2152 (2014) on 29 April 2014, 2218 (2015) on 28 April 2015, 2285 (2016) on 29 April 2016, 2351 (2017) on 28 April 2017 and 2414 (2018) on 27 April 2018,

*Expressing its satisfaction* that the parties met on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from 16 to 18 March 2008 under the auspices of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara and in the presence of the neighbouring countries and that they have agreed to continue the negotiations,

*Also expressing its satisfaction* at the holding of nine informal meetings convened by the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General on 9 and 10 August 2009 in Dürnstein, Austria, on 10 and 11 February 2010 in Westchester County, New York, United States of America, from 7 to 10 November 2010, from 16 to 18 December 2010 and from 21 to 23 January 2011, all on Long Island, New York, from 7 to 9 March 2011 in Mellieha, Malta, from 5 to 7 June 2011 and from 19 to 21 July 2011, both on Long Island, and from 11 to 13 March 2012 in Manhasset, New York, to prepare for the fifth round of negotiations,

*Calling upon* all the parties and the States of the region to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy and with each other,

*Reaffirming* the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara,

*Welcoming*, in this regard, the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy in search of a mutually acceptable political solution to the dispute, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara,

*Having examined* the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018,<sup>160</sup>

*Having also examined* the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>161</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>161</sup>

2. *Supports* the process of negotiations initiated by Security Council resolution 1754 (2007) and further sustained by Council resolutions 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009), 1920 (2010), 1979 (2011), 2044 (2012), 2099 (2013), 2152 (2014), 2218 (2015), 2285 (2016), 2351 (2017) and 2414 (2018), with a view to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, and commends the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy for Western Sahara in this respect;

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<sup>160</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23), chap. VIII.

<sup>161</sup> A/73/219.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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3. *Welcomes* the commitment of the parties to continue to show political will and work in an atmosphere propitious for dialogue, in order to enter into a more intensive phase of negotiations, in good faith and without preconditions, noting efforts and developments since 2006, thus ensuring the implementation of Security Council resolutions [1754 \(2007\)](#), [1783 \(2007\)](#), [1813 \(2008\)](#), [1871 \(2009\)](#), [1920 \(2010\)](#), [1979 \(2011\)](#), [2044 \(2012\)](#), [2099 \(2013\)](#), [2152 \(2014\)](#), [2218 \(2015\)](#), [2285 \(2016\)](#), [2351 \(2017\)](#) and [2414 \(2018\)](#) and the success of negotiations;

4. *Also welcomes* the ongoing negotiations between the parties held on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from 16 to 18 March 2008 in the presence of the neighbouring countries and under the auspices of the United Nations;

5. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate with the International Committee of the Red Cross, and calls upon them to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

7. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

#### RESOLUTION 73/108

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/532](#), para. 45)<sup>162</sup>

#### 73/108. Question of American Samoa

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of American Samoa and examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018,<sup>163</sup>

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on American Samoa<sup>164</sup> and other relevant information,

*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of American Samoa and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions [1514 \(XV\)](#) of 14 December 1960, [1541 \(XV\)](#) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

*Expressing concern* that 58 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,<sup>165</sup> there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including American Samoa,

*Conscious* of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second<sup>166</sup> and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

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<sup>162</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

<sup>163</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*, chap. X.

<sup>164</sup> [A/AC.109/2018/1](#).

<sup>165</sup> Resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#).

<sup>166</sup> [A/56/61](#), annex.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Recognizing* that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of American Samoa require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

*Convinced* that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

*Recalling* the outcome of the referendum held on 4 November 2014, in which the proposal to give the Fono, the Territory's legislature, the authority to override the Governor's veto was rejected, and welcoming the discussion opened in the Territory as to the way forward,

*Concerned* by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#),

*Convinced* that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of American Samoa in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

*Noting* the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

*Mindful* that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of American Samoa and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United States of America as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

*Aware* of the importance both to American Samoa and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of American Samoa in the work of the Committee,

*Recognizing* the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of American Samoa with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

*Mindful*, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

*Welcoming* the Pacific regional seminar on the theme "Implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Non-Self-Governing Territories – social, economic and environmental challenges", held by the Special Committee in Saint George's and hosted by the Government of Grenada from 9 to 11 May 2018, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

*Recognizing* the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee<sup>167</sup> and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,<sup>168</sup>

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<sup>167</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*.

<sup>168</sup> See resolution [65/119](#).

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Noting with appreciation* the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

*Noting* the statement made by a representative of the Governor of American Samoa at the 2018 Pacific regional seminar,<sup>169</sup>

*Noting also* the statement made by a representative of the Governor of American Samoa at the 2018 Pacific regional seminar, in which he expressed his view that the people of American Samoa were happy with the relationship with the administering Power, which could be described as strong and healthy as well as beneficial to the people and the Government of the Territory, and that the most important benefit to American Samoa had been the protection of its indigenous rights to the land as provided for in the Deeds of Cession,

*Noting further* the statement made by a representative of the Governor of American Samoa at the 2018 Pacific regional seminar that the political status of American Samoa as an unincorporated and unorganized territory of the administering Power limited its ability to self-government and exposed it to decisions made by the administering Power,

*Noting* the statement by the representative that, while certain aspects of the form of government of the Territory and its relationship with the administering Power were challenging and in need of improvement, the solutions could be found within the confines of the political and judicial systems of the administering Power and that the territorial Government was pursuing legal actions to counteract the impact of unfavourable federal actions and sought the international community's tacit support,

*Noting also* the information provided by the representative that the Government of American Samoa intended to pursue additional funding from the administering Power to maintain and expand the work of the Office of Political Status, Constitutional Review and Federal Relations,

*Aware* of the work of the Future Political Status Study Commission, completed in 2006, the release of its report, with recommendations, in January 2007 and the creation of the American Samoa Constitutional Review Committee, as well as the holding in June 2010 of the Territory's fourth Constitutional Convention,

*Recalling* the decisions of the United States judiciary in which it dismissed a lawsuit seeking a declaratory judgment that would have asserted that the citizenship clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States extended to American Samoa, and taking note of the decision in which the petition for a writ of certiorari was denied,<sup>170</sup>

*Recalling also* the general election in the Territory which took place in November 2016,<sup>171</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of American Samoa to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of the decolonization of American Samoa, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of American Samoa to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial

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<sup>169</sup> Available at [www.un.org/en/decolonization/regsem2018.shtml](http://www.un.org/en/decolonization/regsem2018.shtml).

<sup>170</sup> Decisions of the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, issued on 5 June and 2 October 2015, affirming the judgment of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, and of the Supreme Court of the United States on 13 June 2016.

<sup>171</sup> See A/AC.109/2017/1, paras. 7–8.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Takes note* of the work of the territorial Government with respect to moving forward on political status, local autonomy and self-governance issues with a view to making political and economic progress, and recalls the establishment in April 2016 of the Office of Political Status, Constitutional Review and Federal Relations;

5. *Recalls* the indication by the territorial Government that American Samoa should remain on the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories, under the purview of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, until such time as its people have exercised their right to self-determination;

6. *Also recalls* the invitation extended in 2015 by the Governor of American Samoa to the Special Committee to send a visiting mission to the Territory, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the steps necessary to that end;

7. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning a public awareness programme, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

8. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of American Samoa and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between American Samoa and the administering Power;

9. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in American Samoa, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

10. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

11. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>172</sup> including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

12. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

13. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of American Samoa and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

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<sup>172</sup> Resolution 70/1.

## RESOLUTION 73/109

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/532, para. 45)<sup>173</sup>

### 73/109. Question of Anguilla

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of Anguilla and examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018,<sup>174</sup>

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Anguilla<sup>175</sup> and other relevant information,

*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of Anguilla and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

*Expressing concern* that 58 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,<sup>176</sup> there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including Anguilla,

*Conscious* of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second<sup>177</sup> and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

*Recognizing* that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of Anguilla require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

*Convinced* that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

*Concerned* by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

*Convinced* that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of Anguilla in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

*Noting* the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

*Mindful* that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Anguilla and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

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<sup>173</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

<sup>174</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*, chap. X.

<sup>175</sup> A/AC.109/2018/2.

<sup>176</sup> Resolution 1514 (XV).

<sup>177</sup> A/56/61, annex.



### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Aware* of the importance both to Anguilla and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of Anguilla in the work of the Committee,

*Recognizing* the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of Anguilla with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

*Mindful*, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

*Welcoming* the Pacific regional seminar on the theme “Implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Non-Self-Governing Territories – social, economic and environmental challenges”, held by the Special Committee in Saint George’s and hosted by the Government of Grenada from 9 to 11 May 2018, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

*Recognizing* the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee<sup>178</sup> and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,<sup>179</sup>

*Noting with appreciation* the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

*Recalling* that the first regional seminar held in a Non-Self-Governing Territory was the 2003 Caribbean regional seminar in Anguilla, hosted by the territorial Government with the cooperation of the administering Power,

*Noting with serious concern* that the Territory last participated in the activities of the Special Committee in 2012, when concerns were expressed that the people of the Territory were being denied the full range of decolonization options under a drafting exercise that began in 2011,

*Aware* of the follow-up meeting, held after the 2012 Pacific regional seminar, between the Chair of the Special Committee and the Chief Minister of Anguilla, who reiterated the urgent need for a visiting mission,

*Noting* the decisions taken in 2011 to set up a drafting team to prepare a new constitution and present it for public consultation in the Territory and the recent efforts undertaken in that regard, including the establishment, in September 2015, of a new Constitutional and Electoral Reform Committee to advance constitutional and electoral reform, as well as draft proposals for electoral and constitutional reforms submitted as the draft constitution by the Committee in November 2016, as well as the revised draft Constitution issued in March 2017 and presented to the Executive Council in May 2017,

*Noting also* the participation of the Territory as a member in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council and an associate member in the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

*Expressing its concern* at the devastating damage and impact caused in the Territory by Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria in 2017,

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<sup>178</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23).*

<sup>179</sup> See resolution 65/119.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Recalling* the general elections which took place in April 2015,<sup>180</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Anguilla to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of Anguilla, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of Anguilla to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Welcomes* the preparations made for a new constitution, and urges that constitutional discussions with the administering Power, including public consultations, be concluded as soon as possible;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory in its current efforts with regard to advancing the internal constitutional review exercise, if requested;

6. *Stresses* the importance of the previously expressed desire of the territorial Government for a visiting mission by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission, if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the necessary steps to that end;

7. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public consultative outreach efforts consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

8. *Calls upon* the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in strengthening its commitments in the economic domain, including budgetary matters, with regional support as needed and appropriate;

9. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

10. *Stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;

11. *Also stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of Anguilla and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between Anguilla and the administering Power;

12. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in Anguilla, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

13. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

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<sup>180</sup> See A/AC.109/2016/2, para. 3.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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14. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>181</sup> including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

15. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

16. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations to provide all the assistance necessary to the Territory, support the recovery and rebuilding efforts and enhance capabilities for emergency preparedness and risk reduction, in particular in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria that impacted the Territory in 2017;

17. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of Anguilla and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

#### RESOLUTION 73/110

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/532, para. 45)<sup>182</sup>

#### 73/110. Question of the British Virgin Islands

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of the British Virgin Islands and examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018,<sup>183</sup>

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the British Virgin Islands<sup>184</sup> and other relevant information,

*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of the British Virgin Islands and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

*Expressing concern* that 58 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,<sup>185</sup> there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the British Virgin Islands,

*Conscious* of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second<sup>186</sup> and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

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<sup>181</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>182</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

<sup>183</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*, chap. X.

<sup>184</sup> A/AC.109/2018/4.

<sup>185</sup> Resolution 1514 (XV).

<sup>186</sup> A/56/61, annex.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Recognizing* that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of the British Virgin Islands require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

*Convinced* that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

*Concerned* by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

*Convinced* that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of the British Virgin Islands in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

*Noting* the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

*Mindful* that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of the British Virgin Islands and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

*Aware* of the importance both to the British Virgin Islands and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the British Virgin Islands in the work of the Committee,

*Recognizing* the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of the British Virgin Islands with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

*Mindful*, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

*Welcoming* the Pacific regional seminar on the theme “Implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Non-Self-Governing Territories – social, economic and environmental challenges”, held by the Special Committee in Saint George’s and hosted by the Government of Grenada from 9 to 11 May 2018, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

*Recognizing* the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee<sup>187</sup> and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,<sup>188</sup>

*Noting with appreciation* the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development

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<sup>187</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23).*

<sup>188</sup> See resolution 65/119.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

*Recalling* the statement made by the Deputy Premier and Minister of Natural Resources and Labour, as a representative of the Government of the British Virgin Islands, at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Quito from 28 to 30 May 2013,

*Noting with serious concern* that the Territory last participated in the activities of the Special Committee in 2013, and noting the statement made at that time by the representative of the Territory that, while the Territory's relationship with the administering Power was stable and not problematic, it could be enhanced,

*Cognizant* of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory and of the Territory's membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council,

*Expressing its concern* at the devastating damage and impact caused in the Territory by Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria in 2017,

*Recalling* the general elections which took place in June 2015,<sup>189</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the British Virgin Islands to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of the British Virgin Islands, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of the British Virgin Islands to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Recalls* the 2007 Constitution of the British Virgin Islands, and stresses the importance of continued discussions on constitutional matters, to accord greater responsibility to the territorial Government for the effective implementation of the Constitution and increased levels of education relating to constitutional matters;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

6. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

7. *Stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;

8. *Also stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of the British Virgin Islands and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the British Virgin Islands and the administering Power;

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<sup>189</sup> See A/AC.109/2016/4, para. 3.

9. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the British Virgin Islands, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

10. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

11. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>190</sup> including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

12. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

13. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations to provide all the necessary assistance to the Territory, support the recovery and rebuilding efforts and enhance capabilities for emergency preparedness and risk reduction, in particular in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria that impacted the Territory in 2017;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the British Virgin Islands and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

### **RESOLUTION 73/111**

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/532, para. 45)<sup>191</sup>

#### **73/111. Question of the Cayman Islands**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of the Cayman Islands and examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018,<sup>192</sup>

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Cayman Islands<sup>193</sup> and other relevant information,

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<sup>190</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>191</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

<sup>192</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*, chap. X.

<sup>193</sup> A/AC.109/2018/5.



### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of the Cayman Islands and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions [1514 \(XV\)](#) of 14 December 1960, [1541 \(XV\)](#) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

*Expressing concern* that 58 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,<sup>194</sup> there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the Cayman Islands,

*Conscious* of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second<sup>195</sup> and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

*Recognizing* that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of the Cayman Islands require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

*Convinced* that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

*Concerned* by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#),

*Convinced* that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of the Cayman Islands in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

*Noting* the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

*Mindful* that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of the Cayman Islands and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

*Aware* of the importance both to the Cayman Islands and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the Cayman Islands in the work of the Committee,

*Recognizing* the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of the Cayman Islands with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

*Mindful*, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

*Welcoming* the Pacific regional seminar on the theme “Implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Non-Self-Governing

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<sup>194</sup> Resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#).

<sup>195</sup> [A/56/61](#), annex.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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Territories – social, economic and environmental challenges”, held by the Special Committee in Saint George’s and hosted by the Government of Grenada from 9 to 11 May 2018, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

*Recognizing* the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee<sup>196</sup> and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,<sup>197</sup>

*Noting with appreciation* the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

*Recalling* the statement made by the honorary representative of the territorial Government at the 2010 Pacific regional seminar held in Nouméa,

*Noting with serious concern* that the Territory last participated in the activities of the Special Committee in 2010,

*Aware* of the work, in accordance with the 2009 Constitution, of the Constitutional Commission, which serves as an advisory body on constitutional matters,

*Cognizant* of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory and of the Territory’s membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council,

*Recalling* the general election that was held in May 2017,<sup>198</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the Cayman Islands to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of the Cayman Islands, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of the Cayman Islands to determine freely their future political status, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Recalls* the 2009 Constitution of the Cayman Islands, and stresses the importance of the work of the Constitutional Commission, including its work on human rights education;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public awareness outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

6. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

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<sup>196</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23).*

<sup>197</sup> See resolution 65/119.

<sup>198</sup> See A/AC.109/2018/5, para. 3.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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7. *Stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;

8. *Also stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of the Cayman Islands and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the Cayman Islands and the administering Power;

9. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the Cayman Islands, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

10. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

11. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>199</sup> including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

12. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

13. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Cayman Islands and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

#### RESOLUTION 73/112

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/532, para. 45)<sup>200</sup>

#### 73/112. Question of French Polynesia

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of French Polynesia,

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018 relating to French Polynesia,<sup>201</sup>

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<sup>199</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>200</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

<sup>201</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*, chap. IX.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on French Polynesia<sup>202</sup> and other relevant information,

*Reaffirming* the right of peoples to self-determination, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in accordance with all relevant resolutions, including General Assembly resolutions [1514 \(XV\)](#) of 14 December 1960 and [1541 \(XV\)](#) of 15 December 1960,

*Recalling* its resolution [67/265](#) of 17 May 2013, entitled “Self-determination of French Polynesia”, in which it affirmed the inalienable right of the people of French Polynesia to self-determination and independence in accordance with Chapter XI of the Charter and its resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#), recognized that French Polynesia remains a Non-Self-Governing Territory within the meaning of the Charter, and declared that an obligation exists under Article 73 *e* of the Charter on the part of the Government of France, as the administering Power of the Territory, to transmit information on French Polynesia,

*Taking note* of the section related to French Polynesia of the Final Document of the Seventeenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Algiers from 26 to 29 May 2014,<sup>203</sup>

*Expressing concern* that 58 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,<sup>204</sup> there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including French Polynesia,

*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned, on a case-by-case basis and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions [1514 \(XV\)](#), [1541 \(XV\)](#) and other relevant resolutions of the Assembly,

*Recognizing also* that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of French Polynesia require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

*Reaffirming* the inalienable rights of the people of French Polynesia to the ownership, control and disposal of their natural resources, including marine resources and undersea minerals,

*Conscious* of the responsibility of the administering Power to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of French Polynesia,

*Mindful* that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the peoples of the Territories and to fulfil its mandate effectively, on a case-by-case basis, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Powers and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territories, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territories,

*Recognizing* the significant health and environmental impacts of nuclear testing conducted by the administering Power in the Territory over a 30-year period, and recognizing also the concerns in the Territory related to the consequences of those activities for the lives and health of the people, especially children and vulnerable groups, as well as the environment of the region, and bearing in mind General Assembly resolution [72/76](#) of 7 December 2017, entitled “Effects of atomic radiation”,

*Recalling* the report of the Secretary-General on the environmental, ecological, health and other impacts of the 30-year period of nuclear testing in French Polynesia,<sup>205</sup> prepared pursuant to paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution [71/120](#) of 6 December 2016,

*Noting* that, in February 2017, the administering Power amended the Act concerning the recognition and compensating of victims of nuclear tests<sup>206</sup> in order to allow for the compensation of a larger number of victims,

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<sup>202</sup> [A/AC.109/2018/7](#).

<sup>203</sup> See [A/68/966-S/2014/573](#), annex I.

<sup>204</sup> Resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#).

<sup>205</sup> [A/72/74](#).

<sup>206</sup> Act No. 2010-2 of 5 January 2010 concerning the recognition and compensating of victims of nuclear tests.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Recognizing* the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the peoples of the Territories in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination,

*Recalling* the admission of French Polynesia as a full member of the Pacific Islands Forum at the forty-seventh Pacific Islands Forum, convened in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, from 8 to 10 September 2016,

*Taking note* of the statement made by the President of French Polynesia in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), at the seventy-second session of the General Assembly in October 2017,

*Taking note also* of the participation of a representative of the Government of the Territory in the regional seminar, which in 2018 was held in Saint George's from 9 to 11 May,

*Noting* the legislative elections which took place in April and May 2018,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of French Polynesia to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of French Polynesia to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of French Polynesia of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

3. *Recalls* the request by a representative of the Government of the Territory at the 2017 Caribbean regional seminar to remove French Polynesia from the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and takes note of resolution No. 2013-3, adopted by the Assembly of French Polynesia on 30 May 2013, which repealed the resolution of the Assembly adopted in 2011 requesting the reinscription of French Polynesia on that list;

4. *Reaffirms*, in this regard, General Assembly resolution 67/265, which provided for the reinscription of French Polynesia on the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and takes careful note of an independent self-governance assessment of the Territory, presented to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) on 4 October 2016,<sup>207</sup> that the Territory did not meet the full measure of self-government;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Special Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in French Polynesia, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

6. *Regrets* that the administering Power has not responded to the request to submit information on French Polynesia under Article 73 *e* of the Charter since the reinscription of the Territory by the General Assembly in 2013;

7. *Reaffirms* that an obligation exists on the part of the administering Power to transmit information under Chapter XI of the Charter, and requests the administering Power to transmit to the Secretary-General such information on French Polynesia as called for under the Charter;

8. *Urges* the administering Power to ensure the permanent sovereignty of the people of French Polynesia over their natural resources, including marine resources and undersea minerals, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

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<sup>207</sup> See A/C.4/71/SR.3, paras. 71–72.

9. *Calls upon* the administering Power to intensify its dialogue with French Polynesia in order to facilitate rapid progress towards a fair and effective self-determination process, under which the terms and timelines for an act of self-determination would be agreed;

10. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of French Polynesia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session.

### RESOLUTION 73/113

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/532, para. 45)<sup>208</sup>

#### 73/113. Question of Guam

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of Guam and examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018,<sup>209</sup>

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Guam,<sup>210</sup> which contained the information requested by the General Assembly in resolution 72/102 of 7 December 2017, and other relevant information,

*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of Guam and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

*Expressing concern* that 58 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,<sup>211</sup> there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including Guam,

*Conscious* of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second<sup>212</sup> and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

*Recognizing* that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of Guam require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

*Convinced* that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

*Concerned* by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

*Convinced* that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of Guam in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

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<sup>208</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

<sup>209</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*, chap. X.

<sup>210</sup> A/AC.109/2018/9.

<sup>211</sup> Resolution 1514 (XV).

<sup>212</sup> A/56/61, annex.



### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Noting* the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

*Mindful* that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Guam and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United States of America as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

*Aware* of the importance both to Guam and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of Guam in the work of the Committee,

*Recognizing* the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of Guam with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

*Mindful*, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

*Welcoming* the Pacific regional seminar on the theme “Implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals – social, economic and environmental challenges”, held by the Special Committee in Saint George’s and hosted by the Government of Grenada from 9 to 11 May 2018, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

*Recognizing* the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee<sup>213</sup> and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,<sup>214</sup>

*Noting with appreciation* the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

*Noting* the ruling<sup>215</sup> of a federal court in the United States, the administering Power, holding that a plebiscite on self-determination could not be limited to native inhabitants, which has brought the plebiscite to a halt, and noting also that there is an ongoing appeals process,

*Noting also* the statement made by a representative of the Governor of Guam at the 2018 Pacific regional seminar, at which participants received updates highlighting the continuing financial challenges faced by the Territory and the efforts made to advance self-determination, including those endeavours made by the Guam Commission on Decolonization for the Implementation and Exercise of Chamorro Self-Determination through the education campaign,

*Cognizant* of the efforts made by the Guam Commission on Decolonization to promote in the Territory the holding of a plebiscite on self-determination and to advance its education campaign on each of the three political status options, and recalling that more than 11,000 native inhabitants have been registered in the Guam decolonization registry to vote in the plebiscite,

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<sup>213</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23).*

<sup>214</sup> See resolution [65/119](#).

<sup>215</sup> District Court of Guam, *Davis v. Guam et al*, decision of 8 March 2017.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Noting*, in this regard, the statement by a representative of the Governor of Guam at the 2018 Pacific regional seminar that, while the case on the plebiscite had put a strain on native rights and the ability to choose the political future of the people of Guam, Guam would continue to move forward in pursuing self-determination,

*Recalling* that the administering Power approved a grant to support the self-determination education campaign in the Territory in March 2016,

*Recalling also* that, in a referendum held in 1987, the registered and eligible voters of Guam endorsed a draft Guam Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing for a greater measure of internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the Chamorro people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory,

*Aware* that negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act ended in 1997 and that Guam has subsequently established a non-binding plebiscite process for a self-determination vote by the eligible Chamorro voters,

*Cognizant* of the importance of the administering Power continuing to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

*Noting* a call for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough, unconditional and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

*Recalling* the concerns expressed by a representative of the Governor of Guam at the 2017 Caribbean regional seminar regarding a potential lawsuit by the administering Power over the Chamorro Land Trust programme, and aware that the federal lawsuit by the administering Power over the programme was filed in September 2017,

*Noting* the expressed desire of the territorial Government for a visiting mission by the Special Committee, as communicated to the Special Committee in August 2017,

*Aware* of the existing concerns of the Territory regarding the potential social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts of the planned transfer of additional military personnel of the administering Power to the Territory,

*Recalling* the concerns expressed by the Territory on this subject before the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) at the seventy-second session of the General Assembly,

*Recalling also* the statement made by the Speaker of the thirty-third Guam legislature before the Fourth Committee at the seventieth session of the General Assembly that the most acute threat to the legitimate exercise of the decolonization of Guam was the incessant militarization of the island by its administering Power, and noting the concern expressed regarding the effect of the escalating military activities and installations of the administering Power on Guam,

*Recalling further* its resolution [57/140](#) of 11 December 2002, in which it reiterated that military activities and arrangements by administering Powers in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration should not run counter to the rights and interests of the peoples of the Territories concerned, especially their right to self-determination, including independence, and called upon the administering Powers concerned to terminate such activities and to eliminate the remaining military bases in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

*Recalling* its resolution [35/118](#) of 11 December 1980 and the territorial Government's concern that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

*Noting* the legislative elections in the Territory which took place in November 2016,<sup>216</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Guam to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

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<sup>216</sup> See [A/AC.109/2017/9](#), para. 3.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of the decolonization of Guam, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of Guam to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Welcomes* the ongoing work of the Guam Commission on Decolonization for the Implementation and Exercise of Chamorro Self-Determination on a self-determination vote, as well as its public education efforts;

5. *Stresses* that the decolonization process in Guam should be compatible with the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;<sup>217</sup>

6. *Calls once again upon* the administering Power to take into consideration the expressed will of the Chamorro people as supported by Guam voters in the referendum of 1987 and as subsequently provided for in Guam law regarding Chamorro self-determination efforts, encourages the administering Power and the territorial Government to enter into negotiations on the matter, and stresses the need for continued close monitoring of the overall situation in the Territory;

7. *Requests* the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to transfer land to the original landowners of the Territory, to continue to recognize and to respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people of Guam and to take all measures necessary to address the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the question of immigration;

8. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested, and welcomes the recent outreach work by the territorial Government;

9. *Further requests* the administering Power to cooperate in establishing programmes for the sustainable development of the economic activities and enterprises of the Territory, noting the special role of the Chamorro people in the development of Guam;

10. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of Guam and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between Guam and the administering Power;

11. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in Guam, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

12. *Also calls upon* the administering Power to facilitate a visiting mission to the Territory, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the steps necessary to that end;

13. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

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<sup>217</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

14. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>218</sup> including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interests of the people of the Territory;

15. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation and the impact of militarization on the environment, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report on the environmental impact of the military activities of the administering Power in the Territory, as relevant information becomes available;

17. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of Guam and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

#### RESOLUTION 73/114

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/532, para. 45)<sup>219</sup>

#### 73/114. Question of Montserrat

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of Montserrat and examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018,<sup>220</sup>

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Montserrat<sup>221</sup> and other relevant information,

*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of Montserrat and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

*Expressing concern* that 58 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,<sup>222</sup> there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including Montserrat,

*Conscious* of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second<sup>223</sup> and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

*Recognizing* that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of Montserrat require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

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<sup>218</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>219</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

<sup>220</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*, chap. X.

<sup>221</sup> A/AC.109/2018/10.

<sup>222</sup> Resolution 1514 (XV).

<sup>223</sup> A/56/61, annex.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Convinced* that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

*Concerned* by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#),

*Convinced* that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of Montserrat in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

*Noting* the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

*Mindful* that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Montserrat and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

*Aware* of the importance both to Montserrat and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of Montserrat in the work of the Committee,

*Recognizing* the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of Montserrat with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

*Mindful*, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

*Welcoming* the Pacific regional seminar on the theme “Implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Non-Self-Governing Territories – social, economic and environmental challenges”, held by the Special Committee in Saint George’s and hosted by the Government of Grenada from 9 to 11 May 2018, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

*Recognizing* the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee<sup>224</sup> and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,<sup>225</sup>

*Noting* the statement made by the Premier of Montserrat at the 2018 Pacific regional seminar, in which he expressed the view that the previous request made for the removal of Montserrat from the agenda of the Special Committee should be reversed,

*Noting also* the information provided by the Premier that Montserrat could not achieve its development goals if its economic dependency continued, compounded by ongoing financial challenges, and that securing funding for rebuilding key infrastructure lost and helping evacuees from the 1995 volcanic crisis required an intervention from the Special Committee as a neutral partner,

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<sup>224</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*.

<sup>225</sup> See resolution [65/119](#).



### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Noting further* the request made by the Premier for a visiting mission of the Special Committee to the Territory, which could also include meetings with evacuees in Antigua and Barbuda, the United Kingdom and the United States of America,

*Noting with appreciation* the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

*Noting with concern* the continuing consequences of the 1995 volcanic eruption, which led to the evacuation of three quarters of the population of the Territory to safe areas of the island and to areas outside the Territory and which continues to have enduring consequences for the economy of the island,

*Acknowledging* the continuing assistance provided to the Territory by States members of the Caribbean Community, in particular Antigua and Barbuda, which has offered safe refuge and access to educational and health facilities, as well as employment for thousands who have left the Territory,

*Noting* the continuing efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to deal with the consequences of the volcanic eruption,

*Recalling* the importance of improving the infrastructure and accessibility of Montserrat, as conveyed by the Premier of Montserrat to the Chair of the Special Committee in their meeting on 11 May 2015,

*Cognizant* of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory and of the Territory's membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Montserrat to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of Montserrat, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of Montserrat to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Recalls* the 2011 Constitution of Montserrat and the work of the territorial Government with respect to moving forward to consolidate the gains provided for in the Constitution;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

6. *Welcomes* the Territory's participation in the work of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

7. *Encourages* the Territory to continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, including regional seminars;

8. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other organizations, to continue to provide assistance to the Territory in alleviating the consequences of the volcanic eruption;



### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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9. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of Montserrat and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between Montserrat and the administering Power;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in Montserrat, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

11. *Stresses* the importance of the invitation extended by the territorial Government for a visiting mission by the Special Committee, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the steps necessary to that end;

12. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

13. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>226</sup> including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

14. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

15. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of Montserrat and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

#### RESOLUTION 73/115

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/532, para. 45)<sup>227</sup>

#### 73/115. Question of New Caledonia

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of New Caledonia,

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018 relating to New Caledonia,<sup>228</sup>

*Reaffirming* the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

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<sup>226</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>227</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

<sup>228</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*, chap. IX.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Recalling* its resolutions [1514 \(XV\)](#) of 14 December 1960 and [1541 \(XV\)](#) of 15 December 1960, and stressing principle VI of the annex to resolution [1541 \(XV\)](#),

*Recalling also* the provisions of the Nouméa Accord,<sup>229</sup> which, inter alia, underscores the importance of the transfer of powers and skills in a timely manner from the administering Power to the people of New Caledonia,

*Reaffirming* that the natural resources are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations,

*Concerned* about any activities aimed at exploiting the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories,

*Noting* the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote equitable political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

*Stressing*, in this context, the importance of continued peaceful dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of the act of self-determination of New Caledonia on 4 November 2018,

*Recalling* the report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples on the situation of Kanak people in New Caledonia, submitted to the Human Rights Council at its eighteenth session, held from 12 to 30 September and on 21 October 2011,<sup>230</sup> following his visit to the Territory in February 2011, and stressing the importance of addressing concerns related to the human rights of indigenous Kanak people, including in eliminating the existing inequalities between the three provinces of the Territory,

*Noting with satisfaction* the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region, including through the hosting of New Caledonian delegates in the French diplomatic and consular missions in the region,

*Recalling* the conclusions of the nineteenth Melanesian Spearhead Group Leaders Summit, under the historic inaugural chairmanship of the Front de libération nationale kanak et socialiste, held in Nouméa from 19 to 21 June 2013, including the Leaders Declaration of the Group reaffirming the strong commitment and support, including technical assistance, for the self-determination of New Caledonia, in accordance with the Charter and the Nouméa Accord,

*Noting* the admission of New Caledonia as a full member of the Pacific Islands Forum at the forty-seventh Pacific Islands Forum, convened in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, from 8 to 10 September 2016,

*Recalling* the exchange of letters between the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat and the Melanesian Spearhead Group secretariat on the sharing of information on New Caledonia,

*Mindful* that New Caledonia has entered the most seminal phase of the Nouméa Accord process, a period that requires continued close monitoring by the United Nations of the situation in the Territory in order to help the people of New Caledonia to exercise their right to self-determination in accordance with the objectives set out in the Charter and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,<sup>231</sup>

*Recalling* the Charter of the Kanak people, common base of the fundamental values and principles of the Kanak civilization, which was proclaimed in April 2014 by the customary authorities, Great Chiefs, Chiefs, Presidents of District Councils and Presidents of the Clan Chiefs Councils, as the sole traditional custodians of the Kanak people of New Caledonia, and noting the concern of the Customary Senate that their interests should be adequately heard by the administering Power and territorial Government on matters of importance to the indigenous people of New Caledonia,

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<sup>229</sup> [A/AC.109/2114](#), annex.

<sup>230</sup> [A/HRC/18/35/Add.6](#), annex.

<sup>231</sup> Resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#).

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Welcoming with appreciation* the dispatch of a United Nations visiting mission to New Caledonia from 12 to 16 March 2018 and also to Paris on 19 March 2018,

*Welcoming with appreciation also* the release of the report of the visiting mission,<sup>232</sup>

*Noting with gratitude* the strengthened cooperation of the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to New Caledonia and its readiness for and concurrence with the dispatching of the 2018 visiting mission,

*Recalling* the dispatch of a United Nations visiting mission to New Caledonia in March 2014, including the statement by the Chair of the visiting mission, the examination of the report of the visiting mission<sup>233</sup> and the letter addressed by the Special Committee to the administering Power soliciting the dispatch of a new visiting mission,

*Recalling also* the statement by the representative of the administering Power regarding the March 2014 visiting mission,

*Acknowledging* the successful conduct by New Caledonia of municipal and provincial elections in May 2014,

*Taking note* of the information presented to the Pacific and the Caribbean regional seminars on the implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, held in Nadi, Fiji, from 21 to 23 May 2014, and in Managua from 19 to 21 May 2015, on the situation in the Territory, including on the issues related to the 2014 elections,

*Taking note also* of the recommendations adopted by the Pacific regional seminar held in Managua from 31 May to 2 June 2016, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee for 2016,<sup>234</sup>

*Taking note further* of the information provided at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Kingstown from 16 to 18 May 2017 by the administering Power as well as by New Caledonian parties on developments in the Territory, including progress towards the referendum on self-determination to be held in 2018, and the recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee for 2017,<sup>235</sup>

*Aware* of the challenges encountered in the 2014 provincial electoral process, particularly with regard to the work of the special administrative commissions in updating the special electoral roll, the non-existence of the supplementary electoral roll from 1998 and the unavailability of the 1998 general electoral roll prior to 2014, and their potential impact on the referendum on self-determination, and taking note of the positive progress made since 2014 on the electoral process for the self-determination referendum,

*Welcoming* the invitation from the administering Power to the Electoral Assistance Division of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat to dispatch an electoral expert observer mission to New Caledonia in May 2016 to observe the work of the special administrative commissions and the advisory committee of experts for the establishment and revision of the special electoral list, including, in particular, for the self-determination referendum in New Caledonia in 2018, consistent with the Nouméa Accord,

*Welcoming also* the transmission by the administering Power to the Special Committee of the final report of the electoral expert observer mission to New Caledonia conducted in 2016, as well as of the list of measures implemented by the administering Power to follow up on the recommendations of the mission,

*Acknowledging with appreciation* the meeting of the Committee of Signatories to the Nouméa Accord held in Paris on 27 March 2018, and the decision of the Committee to hold the self-determination referendum for New Caledonia on 4 November 2018,

*Welcoming* the self-determination referendum question “Do you want New Caledonia to accede to full sovereignty and become independent?”, formulated and adopted by the Committee of Signatories in Paris in March 2018,

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<sup>232</sup> [A/AC.109/2018/20](#).

<sup>233</sup> [A/AC.109/2014/20/Rev.1](#).

<sup>234</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/71/23)*.

<sup>235</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/72/23)*.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Noting* the concerns of the people of New Caledonia regarding the importance of and need for clarity through an educational campaign by the administering Power concerning the potential referendum outcomes,

*Recognizing* the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of the Territory in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination,

1. *Reaffirms its approval* of the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018 relating to New Caledonia;<sup>228</sup>

2. *Reiterates its endorsement* of the report, observations, conclusions and recommendations of the United Nations visiting mission to New Caledonia conducted in 2014;<sup>233</sup>

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the administering Power and the Government of New Caledonia for the close cooperation and assistance extended to the visiting mission;

4. *Reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of New Caledonia to determine freely and fairly their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples<sup>231</sup> and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

5. *Notes* the concerns expressed regarding the challenges encountered in the provincial elections process with respect to the persistent varying interpretations of the restricted electorate provisions and the voter registration appeal process, and encourages efforts by the administering Power and the people of New Caledonia to address in an amicable and peaceful manner the concerns of all stakeholders under the existing relevant laws in the Territory and in France, while also respecting and upholding the spirit and letter of the Nouméa Accord;<sup>229</sup>

6. *Welcomes* the adoption of 4 November 2018 for the self-determination referendum for New Caledonia by the Committee of Signatories to the Nouméa Accord in March 2018, and of the question “Do you want New Caledonia to accede to full sovereignty and become independent?”;

7. *Expresses the view* that adequate measures for conducting the upcoming consultations on access to full sovereignty, including a just, fair, credible and transparent electoral roll, as provided in the Nouméa Accord, are essential for the conduct of a free, fair and genuine act of self-determination consistent with the Charter and United Nations principles and practices;

8. *Welcomes*, in that respect, the continuous high-level political dialogue and commitment in good faith undertaken by the parties in the framework of the Committee of Signatories to the Nouméa Accord to establish the parameters for the conduct of a conclusive act of self-determination, including the setting of an electoral roll, as provided in the Accord;

9. *Takes note* of the outcome of the twelfth meeting of the Committee of Signatories, held on 3 October 2014, which, inter alia, stressed the commitment of the administering Power to enable the people of New Caledonia to decide their future status in a fair, credible, democratic and transparent self-determination process consistent with the Nouméa Accord;

10. *Notes with interest* the convening of the extraordinary meetings of the Committee of Signatories held in Paris on 5 June 2015 and subsequently on 2 November 2017 and 27 March 2018, regarding the New Caledonia self-determination process, including, in particular, the electoral roll for the referendum and related issues;

11. *Calls upon* France, the administering Power, in the light of the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the visiting mission, to consider developing an education programme to inform the people of New Caledonia about the nature of self-determination so that they may be better prepared to face a future decision on the matter, and requests the Special Committee to provide all available assistance in that regard;

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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12. *Commends* the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the visiting missions to the Government of France, as the administering Power, and the Government of New Caledonia for appropriate action;

13. *Notes with appreciation* the continued facilitation by the administering Power of visiting missions to the Territory before the referendum on self-determination to be held in 2018, and encourages cooperation in this regard with the Special Committee;

14. *Urges* all the parties involved, in the interest of the people of New Caledonia and within the framework of the Nouméa Accord, to maintain their dialogue in a spirit of harmony and mutual respect in order to continue to promote a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all sectors of the population, based on the principle that it is for the people of New Caledonia to choose how to determine their destiny;

15. *Reaffirms* its resolutions 68/87 of 11 December 2013 and 69/97 of 5 December 2014, in which the General Assembly, inter alia, reaffirmed that in the absence of a decision by the Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

16. *Welcomes* the actions taken by the administering Power to continue to transmit to the Secretary-General information as required under Article 73 *e* of the Charter, particularly the submission on 7 December 2017 on the most recent developments in New Caledonia;

17. *Notes* the continuing concerns expressed by the Kanak people regarding their underrepresentation in governmental and social structures, incessant migratory flows and the impact of mining on the environment, and the importance of addressing them in a timely manner;

18. *Urges* the administering Power to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the people of New Caledonia to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Power to take all steps necessary to protect the property rights of the people of New Caledonia;

19. *Commends* the “Cadres for the future” programme, and encourages further enhancement of the training and capacity-building of high-level executives in the public and private sectors in the Territory, particularly in view of the ongoing transfer of powers from the Government of France to New Caledonia, while ensuring that the transfer of powers is undertaken in a manner consistent with the Nouméa Accord;

20. *Recalls* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the rights of indigenous peoples on the situation of Kanak people in New Caledonia,<sup>230</sup> made in the light of relevant international standards, to assist with ongoing efforts to advance the rights of the Kanak people in the context of the implementation of the Nouméa Accord and the United Nations-supported decolonization process;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to New Caledonia and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after it exercises its right to self-determination;

22. *Welcomes* the strengthening of the economic and social rebalancing initiatives undertaken by the administering Power, and urges its continuation in all areas and communities of the Territory, especially for the well-being of the Kanak indigenous people;

23. *Encourages* the administering Power, with the cooperation of the Government of New Caledonia, to ensure and enhance safeguards for and guarantees of the inalienable right of the people of the Territory to own, access, use and manage their natural resources, including proprietary rights for their future development;

24. *Recalls* the provisions of the Nouméa Accord to the effect that New Caledonia may become a member or associate member of certain international organizations, and notes the continuing strengthening of ties between New Caledonia and both the European Union and the European Development Fund;

25. *Also recalls* the accession of the Front de libération nationale kanak et socialiste to the Chair of the Melanesian Spearhead Group, the hosting, for the first time in New Caledonia, in June 2013, of the meetings of officials and leaders of the Group, the successful completion of the chairmanship of the Group by the Front de libération nationale kanak et socialiste, in June 2015, and the opening, in February 2013, of the Front de libération nationale kanak et socialiste unit at the headquarters of the Group secretariat in Port Vila;



### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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26. *Acknowledges* the contribution of the Jean-Marie Tjibaou Cultural Centre to the protection of the indigenous Kanak culture of New Caledonia;

27. *Welcomes* the cooperative attitude of other States and Territories in the region towards New Caledonia, its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

28. *Takes note* of the information shared by participants from New Caledonia at the Pacific and the Caribbean regional seminars on the implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, held in Nadi, Fiji, from 21 to 23 May 2014 and in Managua from 19 to 21 May 2015, including on measured progress made in the social, economic, political and environmental spheres and more focused efforts, particularly on the rebalancing initiatives and electoral roll concerns, necessary for the long-term shared mutual benefit of all New Caledonians, and urges the administering Power and the Government of New Caledonia to devote appropriate attention to addressing these issues;

29. *Recalls* the peaceful conduct of provincial elections in New Caledonia on 11 May 2014, the preceding municipal elections and the subsequent efforts to form a new Government of New Caledonia, and encourages constructive engagement by all stakeholders in further developing New Caledonia for all, including by respecting and upholding the Nouméa Accord;

30. *Also recalls* the decision of the administering Power to invite the Electoral Assistance Division of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat to conduct a mission in order to observe the work of the special administrative commissions and the advisory committee of experts for the establishment and revision of the special electoral list, and looks forward to examining its recommendations, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate the presence of international observers, including from the United Nations, during the self-determination referendum of New Caledonia on 4 November 2018;

31. *Stresses* the importance of the agreement between the signatories to the Nouméa Accord that the progress made in the emancipation process shall be brought to the attention of the United Nations;

32. *Decides* to keep under continuous review the process unfolding in New Caledonia as a result of the signing of the Nouméa Accord;

33. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the examination of the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of New Caledonia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session.

#### RESOLUTION 73/116

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/532, para. 45)<sup>236</sup>

#### 73/116. Question of Pitcairn

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of Pitcairn and examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018,<sup>237</sup>

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Pitcairn<sup>238</sup> and other relevant information,

*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of Pitcairn and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

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<sup>236</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

<sup>237</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*, chap. X.

<sup>238</sup> A/AC.109/2018/12.



### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Expressing concern* that 58 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,<sup>239</sup> there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including Pitcairn,

*Conscious* of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second<sup>240</sup> and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

*Recognizing* that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of Pitcairn require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

*Convinced* that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

*Concerned* by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

*Convinced* that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of Pitcairn in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

*Noting* the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

*Mindful* that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Pitcairn and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

*Aware* of the importance both to Pitcairn and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of Pitcairn in the work of the Committee,

*Recognizing* the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of Pitcairn with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

*Mindful*, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

*Welcoming* the Pacific regional seminar on the theme “Implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Non-Self-Governing Territories – social, economic and environmental challenges”, held by the Special Committee in Saint George’s and hosted by the Government of Grenada from 9 to 11 May 2018, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

*Recognizing* the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee<sup>241</sup> and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially,

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<sup>239</sup> Resolution 1514 (XV).

<sup>240</sup> A/56/61, annex.

<sup>241</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23).

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the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,<sup>242</sup>

*Noting with serious concern* that the Territory last participated in the activities of the Special Committee in 2004,

*Taking into account* the unique character of Pitcairn in terms of population, area and access,

*Aware* that the administering Power and the territorial Government have implemented a governance structure to strengthen administrative capacity in the Territory, based on consultations with the people of the Territory,

*Cognizant* that the administering Power and the territorial Government have developed and reviewed a five-year strategic development plan, covering the period from 2014 to 2018, that sets out the views and aspirations of the people of the Territory for the socioeconomic development of the Territory,

*Aware* of the assessment made in 2013 that the population of the Territory needs to be boosted if the Territory is to have a sustainable future and of the approval by the Pitcairn Island Council of an immigration policy and a repopulation plan, covering the period from 2014 to 2019, designed to promote immigration and repopulation and bring people with the necessary skills and commitment to Pitcairn,

*Noting with concern* the findings contained in the final report on the survey commissioned by the Pitcairn Island Council to ascertain whether members of the diaspora had any interest in returning to the Territory and the factors conditioning a decision,<sup>243</sup>

*Recalling* that a marine protected area was established around Pitcairn in September 2016,<sup>244</sup>

*Noting* the elections for the Island Council and Deputy Mayor which took place in November 2017,<sup>245</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Pitcairn to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of the decolonization of Pitcairn, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of Pitcairn to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Welcomes* all efforts by the administering Power and the territorial Government that would further devolve operational responsibilities to the Territory, with a view to gradually expanding self-government, including through the training of local personnel;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

6. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue its assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory and to continue its discussions with the territorial Government on how best to support socioeconomic and environmental security in Pitcairn, including as regards demographic matters;

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<sup>242</sup> See resolution 65/119.

<sup>243</sup> See A/AC.109/2015/5, para. 14.

<sup>244</sup> See A/AC.109/2017/12, para. 40.

<sup>245</sup> See A/AC.109/2018/12, “The Territory at a glance”.

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7. *Stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;

8. *Welcomes* the work carried out on the preparation of the five-year strategic development plan for the island;

9. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of Pitcairn and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between Pitcairn and the administering Power;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in Pitcairn, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

11. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

12. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>246</sup> including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

13. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of Pitcairn and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

#### RESOLUTION 73/117

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/532, para. 45)<sup>247</sup>

#### 73/117. Question of Saint Helena

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of Saint Helena and examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018,<sup>248</sup>

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<sup>246</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>247</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

<sup>248</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*, chap. X.

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*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Saint Helena<sup>249</sup> and other relevant information,

*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of Saint Helena and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions [1514 \(XV\)](#) of 14 December 1960, [1541 \(XV\)](#) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

*Expressing concern* that 58 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,<sup>250</sup> there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including Saint Helena,

*Conscious* of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second<sup>251</sup> and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

*Recognizing* that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of Saint Helena require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

*Convinced* that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

*Concerned* by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#),

*Convinced* that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of Saint Helena in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

*Noting* the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

*Mindful* that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Saint Helena and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

*Aware* of the importance both to Saint Helena and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of Saint Helena in the work of the Committee,

*Recognizing* the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of Saint Helena with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

*Mindful*, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

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<sup>249</sup> [A/AC.109/2018/13](#).

<sup>250</sup> Resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#).

<sup>251</sup> [A/56/61](#), annex.

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*Welcoming* the Pacific regional seminar on the theme “Implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Non-Self-Governing Territories – social, economic and environmental challenges”, held by the Special Committee in Saint George’s and hosted by the Government of Grenada from 9 to 11 May 2018, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

*Recognizing* the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee<sup>252</sup> and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,<sup>253</sup>

*Noting with appreciation* the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

*Recalling* the statement made by a representative of the Legislative Council of Saint Helena at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Managua from 19 to 21 May 2015 that the Territory had no aspiration to independence and had been able to have a formal form of government,

*Recalling also* the information provided by a representative of the Legislative Council of Saint Helena that, although human rights provisions are enshrined in the 2009 Constitution of Saint Helena, some international instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>254</sup> have not yet been extended to the Territory,

*Recalling further* the extension by the administering Power to Saint Helena of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women<sup>255</sup> in March 2017,

*Noting with serious concern* that the Territory last participated in the activities of the Special Committee in 2015,

*Taking into account* the unique character of Saint Helena in terms of its population, geography and natural resources,

*Aware* of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to improve the socioeconomic conditions of the population of Saint Helena, in particular in the areas of employment, transport and communications infrastructure,

*Aware also* of the completion of the construction of the airport in the Territory and the commencement in October 2017 of commercial air service, and recalling the concerns expressed by a representative of the Legislative Council of Saint Helena about the potential impacts of the construction of the airport, such as the growing number of expatriate families settling in the Territory and the lack of a specific plan for the operation of an air route or sea link between Saint Helena and neighbouring islands,

*Noting* the general election which took place in July 2017,<sup>256</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Saint Helena to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of Saint Helena, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

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<sup>252</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23).*

<sup>253</sup> See resolution 65/119.

<sup>254</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>255</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>256</sup> See A/AC.109/2018/13, “The Territory at a glance”.



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3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of Saint Helena to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;
4. *Stresses* the importance of the 2009 Constitution of the Territory and the further development of democratic and good governance;
5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;
6. *Requests* the administering Power and relevant international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the socioeconomic development challenges of the Territory;
7. *Stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;
8. *Also stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of Saint Helena and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between Saint Helena and the administering Power;
9. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in Saint Helena, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;
10. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;
11. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>257</sup> including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;
12. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;
13. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of Saint Helena and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

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<sup>257</sup> Resolution 70/1.



## RESOLUTION 73/118

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/532, para. 45)<sup>258</sup>

### 73/118. Question of Tokelau

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of Tokelau,

*Taking note* of the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018 relating to Tokelau,<sup>259</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular General Assembly resolution 72/107 of 7 December 2017,

*Noting with appreciation* the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand as the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

*Noting with appreciation also* the collaborative contribution to the development of Tokelau by New Zealand and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

*Bearing in mind* that, as a small island Territory, Tokelau exemplifies the situation of most remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories and that, as a case study pointing to successful cooperation for decolonization, Tokelau has wider significance for the United Nations as it seeks to complete its work in decolonization,

*Recalling* the status of Tokelau as an associate member of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

*Acknowledging* the World No Tobacco Day Award for the western Pacific region granted to Tokelau in 2017 by the World Health Organization for its policy entitled “Tobacco-Free Tokelau by 2020”, and expressing hope that this could contribute to the well-being of the Territory and its peoples,

*Cognizant* that New Zealand and Tokelau signed, on 21 November 2003, a document entitled “Joint statement of the principles of partnership”, which sets out the rights and responsibilities of the two partners,

*Bearing in mind* the decision of the General Fono at its meeting in November 2003, following extensive consultations undertaken in all three villages, to explore formally with New Zealand the option of self-government in free association, its decision in August 2005 to hold in February 2006 a referendum on self-determination on the basis of a draft constitution for Tokelau and a draft treaty of free association with New Zealand, and its subsequent decision to hold a further referendum in October 2007, and bearing in mind also that the two referendums did not produce the two-thirds majority of valid votes cast required by the General Fono to change the status of Tokelau from that of a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the administration of New Zealand,

*Recalling* the holding of free and fair elections in the Territory in January 2017,

*Noting* the 2013 constitutional consultations, to be further considered by the Constitution Committee, which were driven by the people of Tokelau and which aimed at developing a model of government structure that is culturally appropriate and sensitive to their current situation, culminating in the approval and ratification of the national symbol of the Territory, along with the constitution, national anthem and national flag,

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<sup>258</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

<sup>259</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*, chap. XI.

*Cognizant* of the statement made by the Ulu-o-Tokelau at the Pacific regional seminar on the implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, held in Nadi, Fiji, from 21 to 23 May 2014, and also of the written statement for the Pacific regional seminar held in Saint George's from 9 to 11 May 2018 that the self-determination process of the Territory could not be addressed in isolation from the threat of climate change, the rise in sea level and the challenges to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>260</sup> and bearing in mind the intention of Tokelau to articulate its development and other priorities in the National Strategic Plan for 2016–2020, including consideration of the issue of self-determination and how it would prepare for a possible referendum on self-determination in cooperation with the administering Power,

*Welcoming* the official launch in April 2017 of the climate change strategy of Tokelau, entitled “Living with change: an integrated national strategy for enhancing the resilience of Tokelau to climate change and related hazards, 2017–2030”, and the implementation plan for the first five years of the strategy, from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2022,

*Taking note* of the announcement of the administering Power that, as requested by the Government of Tokelau, it had submitted a formal declaration to the United Nations to extend the territorial application of both the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>261</sup> and the Paris Agreement<sup>262</sup> to Tokelau,

*Recalling* the statement made at the 2014 seminar in Fiji by the representative of the Government of New Zealand, as the administering Power, citing the close and cordial cooperation that has existed for nearly 90 years between the Territory and the administering Power, with an emphasis on quality health care and education, telecommunications, renewable energy, support for the fisheries sector and the establishment of transport infrastructure and services, and noting the gifting by New Zealand to Tokelau of a new, purpose-built ferry, which entered into service in March 2016, and plans to gift a fast inter-atoll vessel to support search and rescue missions, medical evacuations and general transport between the atolls,

1. *Acknowledges* the decision of the General Fono in 2008 that consideration of any future act of self-determination by Tokelau will be deferred and that New Zealand and Tokelau will devote renewed effort and attention to ensuring that essential services and infrastructure on the atolls of Tokelau are enhanced and strengthened, thereby ensuring an enhanced quality of life and opportunities for the people of Tokelau;

2. *Welcomes* the progress made towards the devolution of power to the three taupulega (village councils) since 2004, and notes that further discussion is planned on the recommendations in the report on the devolution review, compiled in 2012;

3. *Notes with appreciation* that Tokelau and New Zealand remain firmly committed to the ongoing development of Tokelau for the long-term benefit of the people of Tokelau, with particular emphasis on the further development of facilities on each atoll that meet their current requirements, including investment to connect Tokelau to an undersea cable for faster and more reliable Internet services;

4. *Recalls* the consideration by Tokelau of its National Strategic Plan for 2016–2020, which prioritizes good governance, human development, infrastructure development, sustainability and climate change adaptation, and notes the completion by Tokelau of the Plan, which determines development and other priorities for the 2016–2020 period, and the Plan's focus on infrastructure development to support service delivery, including through transport and telecommunications solutions;

5. *Acknowledges* the ongoing and consistent commitment of New Zealand to meeting the social and economic requirements of the people of Tokelau, including through new shipping service assets and shipping infrastructure development, and budget support for the delivery of education services ranging from early childhood education to foundation courses for tertiary study, as well as the support and cooperation of the United Nations Development Programme and the World Health Organization;

6. *Commends* the completion by Tokelau in 2013 of the Tokelau Renewable Energy Project with the support of the administering Power and receipt by the Government of the Renewable Energy Award granted by the New Zealand Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority;

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<sup>260</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>261</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>262</sup> See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.

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7. *Also commends* Tokelau for the recent measures taken to safeguard the health of its peoples through its “Tobacco-Free Tokelau by 2020” policy, and encourages the necessary support for its implementation from the administering Power, the United Nations system and relevant stakeholders;

8. *Acknowledges* the need of Tokelau for continued support from the international community and its desire to become part of the discussions on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>260</sup> the impacts of climate change and the protection of the environment and oceans, and in this regard encourages, as appropriate, assistance towards the implementation of the climate change strategy of Tokelau, entitled “Living with change: an integrated national strategy for enhancing the resilience of Tokelau to climate change and related hazards, 2017–2030”, and the associated plan, and also acknowledges the efforts of the administering Power to include in its national reporting to the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>261</sup> the climate mitigation action taken by Tokelau;

9. *Recalls with satisfaction* the establishment and operation of the Tokelau International Trust Fund to support the ongoing needs of Tokelau, and calls upon Member States and international and regional agencies to contribute to the Fund and thereby lend practical support to Tokelau in overcoming the problems of smallness, isolation and lack of resources;

10. *Welcomes* the cooperative attitude of the other States and territories in the region towards Tokelau and their support for its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs, and in this regard notes the successful chairmanship by Tokelau of the tenth annual ministerial meeting of the Forum Fisheries Committee of the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency, held in Tokelau on 1 and 2 July 2014, the representation of the Agency by the Ulu-o-Tokelau at the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, held in Apia from 1 to 4 September 2014, and the signing by Tokelau of the Pacific Islands Development Forum Charter on 27 April 2016 so as to become the twelfth member of the Forum;

11. *Calls upon* the administering Power and United Nations agencies to continue to provide assistance to Tokelau as it further develops;

12. *Recognizes* the positive actions taken by the administering Power to transmit to the Secretary-General under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations information regarding the political, economic and social situation of Tokelau;

13. *Commends* the commitment of both Tokelau and New Zealand to continuing to work together in the interests of Tokelau and its people;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of Tokelau and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session.

#### RESOLUTION 73/119

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/532, para. 45)<sup>263</sup>

#### 73/119. Question of Bermuda

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of Bermuda and examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018,<sup>264</sup>

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Bermuda<sup>265</sup> and other relevant information,

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<sup>263</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

<sup>264</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*, chap. X.

<sup>265</sup> A/AC.109/2018/3.

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*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of Bermuda and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions [1514 \(XV\)](#) of 14 December 1960, [1541 \(XV\)](#) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

*Expressing concern* that 58 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,<sup>266</sup> there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including Bermuda,

*Conscious* of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second<sup>267</sup> and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

*Recognizing* that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of Bermuda require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

*Convinced* that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

*Concerned* by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#),

*Convinced* that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of Bermuda in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

*Noting* the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

*Mindful* that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Bermuda and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

*Aware* of the importance both to Bermuda and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of Bermuda in the work of the Committee,

*Recognizing* the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of Bermuda with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

*Mindful*, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

*Welcoming* the Pacific regional seminar on the theme “Implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Non-Self-Governing Territories – social, economic and environmental challenges”, held by the Special Committee in Saint George’s and hosted by the Government of Grenada from 9 to 11 May 2018, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

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<sup>266</sup> Resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#).

<sup>267</sup> [A/56/61](#), annex.

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*Recognizing* the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee<sup>268</sup> and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,<sup>269</sup>

*Noting with appreciation* the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

*Recalling* the statement made by the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice as a representative of the Government of Bermuda at the Pacific regional seminar held in Quito from 30 May to 1 June 2012,

*Noting with serious concern* that the Territory last participated in the activities of the Special Committee in 2012,

*Recalling* the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to Bermuda in 2005, at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power, which provided information to the people of the Territory on the role of the United Nations in the process of self-determination, on the legitimate political status options as clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and on the experiences of other small States that have achieved a full measure of self-government,

*Stressing* the importance of good governance, transparency and accountability in the Territory,

*Cognizant* of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

*Recalling* the extension by the administering Power to Bermuda of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women<sup>270</sup> in March 2017,

*Recalling also* the general elections which took place in July 2017,<sup>271</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Bermuda to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of Bermuda, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of Bermuda to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the 2005 report of the Bermuda Independence Commission, which provides a thorough examination of the facts surrounding independence, and continues to regret that the plans for public meetings and the presentation of a Green Paper to the House of Assembly followed by a White Paper outlining the policy proposals for an independent Bermuda have so far not materialized;

5. *Underlines* the need further to strengthen good governance, transparency and accountability in government for the benefit of the Territory;

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<sup>268</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23).*

<sup>269</sup> See resolution 65/119.

<sup>270</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>271</sup> See A/AC.109/2018/3, para. 4.



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6. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

7. *Welcomes* the active participation of Bermuda in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

8. *Stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;

9. *Also stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of Bermuda and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between Bermuda and the administering Power;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in Bermuda, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

11. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

12. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>272</sup> including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

13. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of Bermuda and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

#### RESOLUTION 73/120

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/532, para. 45)<sup>273</sup>

#### 73/120. Question of the Turks and Caicos Islands

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of the Turks and Caicos Islands and examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018,<sup>274</sup>

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<sup>272</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>273</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

<sup>274</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*, chap. X.



### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Turks and Caicos Islands<sup>275</sup> and other relevant information,

*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions [1514 \(XV\)](#) of 14 December 1960, [1541 \(XV\)](#) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

*Expressing concern* that 58 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,<sup>276</sup> there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the Turks and Caicos Islands,

*Conscious* of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second<sup>277</sup> and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

*Recognizing* that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

*Convinced* that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

*Concerned* by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#),

*Convinced* that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

*Noting* the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

*Mindful* that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

*Aware* of the importance both to the Turks and Caicos Islands and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the Turks and Caicos Islands in the work of the Committee,

*Recognizing* the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

*Mindful*, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

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<sup>275</sup> [A/AC.109/2018/15](#).

<sup>276</sup> Resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#).

<sup>277</sup> [A/56/61](#), annex.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Welcoming* the Pacific regional seminar on the theme “Implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Non-Self-Governing Territories – social, economic and environmental challenges”, held by the Special Committee in Saint George’s and hosted by the Government of Grenada from 9 to 11 May 2018, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

*Recognizing* the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee<sup>278</sup> and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,<sup>279</sup>

*Noting with appreciation* the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

*Taking note* of the statement made by a representative appointed by the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Managua from 19 to 21 May 2015,

*Noting with serious concern* that the Territory last participated in the activities of the Special Committee in 2015,

*Recalling* the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in 2006 at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power,

*Recalling also* the decision of the administering Power to suspend parts of the Turks and Caicos Islands Constitution Order 2006 and the subsequent institution of direct rule exercised by the administering Power, taking note of the provision of a new Constitution Order in 2012, as well as the election held in the Territory in 2012, and recalling that the administering Power did not accept the recommendations of the 2014 report of the Constitutional Review Committee,

*Recalling further* the endorsement by the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community of the report of the Community’s fact-finding mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in 2013, which called for, inter alia, a referendum on self-determination and a mechanism for amending the Constitution,

*Recalling* that, in March 2014, the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community received an update on the situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands, which they will continue to monitor, and that they expressed their support for the full restoration of democracy in the Territory on terms driven by its people,

*Expressing its concern* at the devastating damage and impact caused in the Territory by Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria in 2017,

*Recalling* the general election which took place in December 2016, and welcoming the election of the first female Premier of the Territory,<sup>280</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of the Turks and Caicos Islands, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

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<sup>278</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23).*

<sup>279</sup> See resolution 65/119.

<sup>280</sup> See A/AC.109/2017/15, para. 16.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;
4. *Reiterates its support* for the full restoration of democracy in the Territory and for the work of the Constitutional Review Committee, and encourages further efforts by the administering Power in this regard;
5. *Takes note* of the positions and repeated calls of the Caribbean Community and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries in support of a democratically elected territorial Government and of the full restoration of democracy in the Territory as decided by its people;
6. *Notes* the continuing debate on constitutional reform within the Territory, and stresses the importance of participation by all groups and interested parties in the consultation process;
7. *Stresses* the importance of having in place in the Territory a constitution that reflects the aspirations and wishes of its people, based on the mechanisms for popular consultation;
8. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;
9. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;
10. *Stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;
11. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the territorial Government addressing the need for attention to be paid to the enhancement of socioeconomic development across the Territory;
12. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the Turks and Caicos Islands and the administering Power;
13. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the Turks and Caicos Islands, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;
14. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;
15. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>281</sup> including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and

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<sup>281</sup> Resolution 70/1.

promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

16. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

17. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations to provide all the assistance necessary to the Territory, support the recovery and rebuilding efforts and enhance capabilities for emergency preparedness and risk reduction, in particular in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria that impacted the Territory in 2017;

18. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Turks and Caicos Islands and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

#### RESOLUTION 73/121

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/532, para. 45)<sup>282</sup>

#### 73/121. Question of the United States Virgin Islands

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of the United States Virgin Islands and examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018,<sup>283</sup>

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the United States Virgin Islands<sup>284</sup> and other relevant information,

*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of the United States Virgin Islands and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

*Expressing concern* that 58 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,<sup>285</sup> there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the United States Virgin Islands,

*Conscious* of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second<sup>286</sup> and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

*Recognizing* that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of the United States Virgin Islands require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

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<sup>282</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

<sup>283</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*, chap. X.

<sup>284</sup> A/AC.109/2018/16.

<sup>285</sup> Resolution 1514 (XV).

<sup>286</sup> A/56/61, annex.

### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Convinced* that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

*Concerned* by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#),

*Convinced* that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of the United States Virgin Islands in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

*Noting* the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

*Mindful* that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of the United States Virgin Islands and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United States of America as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

*Aware* of the importance both to the United States Virgin Islands and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the United States Virgin Islands in the work of the Committee,

*Recognizing* the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of the United States Virgin Islands with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

*Mindful*, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

*Welcoming* the Pacific regional seminar on the theme “Implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Non-Self-Governing Territories – social, economic and environmental challenges”, held by the Special Committee in Saint George’s and hosted by the Government of Grenada from 9 to 11 May 2018, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

*Recognizing* the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee<sup>287</sup> and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,<sup>288</sup>

*Noting with serious concern* that the Territory last participated in the activities of the Special Committee in 2006,

*Noting with appreciation* the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

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<sup>287</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23)*.

<sup>288</sup> See resolution [65/119](#).



### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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*Aware* of the fifth attempt of the Territory to review the existing Revised Organic Act, which organizes its internal governance arrangements, as well as its requests to the administering Power and the United Nations system for assistance to its public education programme,

*Cognizant* that a draft constitution was proposed in 2009 and subsequently forwarded to the administering Power, which in 2010 requested the Territory to consider its objections to the draft constitution,

*Cognizant also* that the Fifth Revision Convention, established and convened in 2012, was mandated to ratify and approve the final revised draft constitution,

*Expressing concern* about the extended time spent on the constitutional review process, and stressing the importance for the Special Committee to receive updated information in due time regarding the status of the drafting of the Constitution,

*Stressing* the importance of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

*Expressing its concern* at the devastating damage and impact caused in the Territory by Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria in 2017,

*Recalling* the general election which took place in November 2016,<sup>289</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the United States Virgin Islands to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of the United States Virgin Islands, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of the United States Virgin Islands to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Welcomes* the proposal of a draft constitution emanating from the Territory in 2009, as a result of the work of the United States Virgin Islands Fifth Constitutional Convention, for review by the administering Power, and requests the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals, in particular the successful conclusion of the internal Constitutional Convention exercise;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to facilitate the process for approval of the proposed constitution and its implementation, once agreed upon in the Territory, and to regularly provide the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples with relevant updates in this regard;

6. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning a public education programme, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

7. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Office of Self-Determination and Constitutional Development in the University of the Virgin Islands, with the funding from the administering Power, to address the issue of self-determination, including political status and constitutional education;

8. *Recalls* the closing of the Hovensa plant in 2012, which had a negative economic impact on the Territory;

9. *Reiterates its call* for the inclusion of the Territory in regional programmes of the United Nations Development Programme, consistent with the participation of other Non-Self-Governing Territories;

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<sup>289</sup> See A/AC.109/2017/16, para. 2.



### III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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10. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

11. *Stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;

12. *Also stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of the United States Virgin Islands and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the United States Virgin Islands and the administering Power;

13. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the United States Virgin Islands, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

14. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

15. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>290</sup> including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

16. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

17. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations to provide all the assistance necessary to the Territory, support the recovery and rebuilding efforts and enhance capabilities for emergency preparedness and risk reduction efforts and enhance capabilities for emergency preparedness and risk reduction, in particular in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria that impacted the Territory in 2017;

18. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the United States Virgin Islands and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

#### RESOLUTION 73/122

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/532, para. 45),<sup>291</sup> by a recorded vote of 172 to 3, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia,

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<sup>290</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>291</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* France, Malawi, Togo

### 73/122. Dissemination of information on decolonization

*The General Assembly,*

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018 relating to the dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization,<sup>292</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution [1514\(XV\)](#) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular General Assembly resolution [72/110](#) of 7 December 2017,

*Recognizing* the need for flexible, practical and innovative approaches towards reviewing the options for self-determination for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, with a view to implementing the plan of action for the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

*Reiterating* the importance of dissemination of information as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve self-determination,

*Recognizing* the role played by the administering Powers in transmitting information to the Secretary-General, in accordance with the terms of Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Stressing* the importance of the visiting missions of the Special Committee in contributing substantially to the dissemination of information on decolonization,

*Recognizing* that the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, through the United Nations information centres, must play a bigger role, in accordance with resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, in the dissemination of information at the regional level on the activities of the United Nations,

*Recalling* the issuance by the Department of Public Information, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, of an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Aware* of the role of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

1. *Approves* the activities in the field of dissemination of information on decolonization undertaken by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization, and encourages the continued updating and wide

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<sup>292</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23), chap. III.*

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dissemination of the information leaflet on what the United Nations can do to assist Non-Self-Governing Territories, published in accordance with General Assembly resolution [61/129](#) of 14 December 2006, and updated for the United Nations website on decolonization;

2. *Considers it important* to continue and expand its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with particular emphasis on the options for self-determination available for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to this end requests the Department of Public Information, through the United Nations information centres in the relevant regions, to actively engage and seek new and innovative ways to disseminate material to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further enhance the information provided on the United Nations decolonization website and to continue to include the full series of reports of the regional seminars on decolonization, the statements and scholarly papers presented at those seminars and links to the full series of reports of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

4. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts to update web-based information on the assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

5. *Requests* the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information to implement the recommendations of the Special Committee and to continue their efforts to take measures through all of the media available, including publications, radio, television, the Internet and social media, to give publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, inter alia:

(a) To develop procedures to collect, prepare and disseminate, particularly to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, basic material on the issue of self-determination of the peoples of the Territories;

(b) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(c) To explore further the idea of a programme of collaboration with the decolonization focal points of territorial Governments, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, to help to improve the exchange of information;

(d) To encourage the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(e) To encourage the involvement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(f) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* all States, including the administering Powers, to accelerate the dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine this question and to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

#### RESOLUTION 73/123

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/532](#), para. 45),<sup>293</sup> by a recorded vote of 124 to 8, with 46 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania,

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<sup>293</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Israel, Morocco, Senegal, South Sudan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Ukraine

### 73/123. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

*The General Assembly,*

*Having examined* the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018,<sup>294</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its subsequent resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, the most recent of which was resolution 72/111 of 7 December 2017, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

*Bearing in mind* its resolution 65/119 of 10 December 2010, by which it declared the period 2011–2020 the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and the need to examine ways and means to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the basis of resolution 1514(XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization,

*Recognizing* that the eradication of colonialism has been one of the priorities of the United Nations and continues to be one of its priorities for the decade that began in 2011,

*Regretting* that measures to eliminate colonialism by 2010, as called for in its resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000, have not been successful,

*Reiterating its conviction* of the need for the eradication of colonialism, as well as racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights,

*Noting with satisfaction* the continued efforts of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

*Stressing* the importance of the formal participation of all administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee with regard to the relevant Territories under their administration in accordance with Article 73 of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Noting with satisfaction* the cooperation and active participation of certain administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee, and encouraging the others also to do so,

*Noting* that the Pacific regional seminar was held in Saint George's from 9 to 11 May 2018,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 1514(XV) and all other resolutions and decisions on decolonization, including its resolution 65/119, by which it declared the period 2011–2020 the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all steps necessary to enable the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination, including independence, on a case-by-case basis;

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<sup>294</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23).

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2. *Reaffirms once again* that the existence of colonialism in any form or manifestation, including economic exploitation, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;<sup>295</sup>

3. *Reaffirms its determination* to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful observance by all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

4. *Affirms its support once again* for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Power of each Territory on the agenda of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to cooperate fully in the work of the Special Committee and to participate formally in its future sessions and seminars;

6. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee to develop and finalize, as soon as possible, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

7. *Recalls with satisfaction* the professional, open and transparent conduct of both the February 2006 and the October 2007 referendums to determine the future status of Tokelau, monitored by the United Nations;

8. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out the actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the Second and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence, and in particular:

(a) To formulate specific proposals to bring about an end to colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

(b) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

(c) To continue to examine the political, economic and social situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to recommend to the General Assembly, as appropriate, the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(d) To develop and finalize, as soon as possible and in cooperation with the administering Power and the Territory in question, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories, to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(e) To continue to dispatch visiting and special missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(f) To conduct seminars, as appropriate, for the purpose of receiving and disseminating information on the work of the Special Committee, and to facilitate participation by the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those seminars;

(g) To take all steps necessary to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

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<sup>295</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).



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(h) To observe annually the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

9. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and, inter alia, to facilitate visiting missions of the Committee to the Territories on a case-by-case basis and in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions on specific Territories;

10. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations visiting missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, where applicable, are an effective means of ascertaining the situation of the peoples of the Territories, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions on specific Territories, and therefore requests the Special Committee to undertake at least one visiting mission a year;

11. *Recalls* that the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,<sup>296</sup> updated as necessary, represents an important legislative authority for the attainment of self-government by the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and that the case-by-case assessment of the attainment of self-government in each Territory can make an important contribution to this process;

12. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

13. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that economic and other activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration do not adversely affect the interests of the peoples but instead promote development, and to assist them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

14. *Calls upon* the administering Powers concerned to terminate military activities and eliminate military bases in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

15. *Urges* the administering Powers to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable rights of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the relevant administering Powers to take all steps necessary to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

16. *Urges* all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to provide moral and material assistance, as needed, to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and requests the administering Powers to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economies of those Territories;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General, President pro tempore of the Special Committee, to meet informally at least once a year with the Chair and the Bureau of the Committee during the intersessional period, in order to explore innovative ways of using his good offices to help to advance the decolonization agenda on a case-by-case basis;

19. *Approves* the report of the Special Committee covering its work during 2018,<sup>294</sup> in which the programme of work for 2019 is outlined, in particular the Caribbean regional seminar and a visiting mission to one of the Territories on its agenda, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions on specific Territories;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to review the resources at the disposal of the Special Committee in order to ensure that the Committee has the funding, facilities and services commensurate with its envisioned yearly programmes, as mandated in relevant General Assembly resolutions, including, especially, in paragraph 8 of its resolution [72/111](#).

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<sup>296</sup> [A/56/61](#), annex.



### RESOLUTION 73/261

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/521, para. 11)<sup>297</sup>

#### 73/261. Effects of atomic radiation

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955, by which it established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions on the subject, in which, inter alia, it requested the Scientific Committee to continue its work,

*Concerned* about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the levels of radiation to which humankind and the environment are exposed,

*Conscious* of the continuing need to examine and compile information about atomic and ionizing radiation and to analyse its effects on humankind and the environment, and conscious also of the increased volume, complexity and diversity of that information,

*Acknowledging* the concerns about the radiological consequences of nuclear accidents,

*Reaffirming* the desirability of the Scientific Committee continuing its work, and welcoming the increased commitment of States members of the Committee,

*Emphasizing* the vital need for sufficient, assured and predictable funding, as well as efficient management, of the work of the secretariat of the Scientific Committee to arrange the annual sessions and coordinate the development of documents based on scientific reviews of the sources of ionizing radiation and its effects on human health and the environment,

*Recognizing* the increasing importance of the scientific work of the Scientific Committee and the need to carry out unforeseen additional work, such as after the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station,

*Considering* that the high quality of the work and the scientific rigour of the Scientific Committee need to be maintained in the future,

*Recognizing* the importance of disseminating the findings of the Scientific Committee, in particular to the public, and widely publicizing scientific knowledge about atomic radiation, and recalling in that context principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,<sup>298</sup>

*Noting* the need for the resources of the Scientific Committee to be sufficient, assured and predictable, and recognizing the importance of voluntary contributions to the general trust fund established by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to support the work of the Committee,

*Bearing in mind* that the incorporation of new members will imply a proportional increase in operational costs for the Scientific Committee, including travel costs,

*Commending* the secretariat of the Scientific Committee for its ongoing efforts to ensure the sustainable and effective work of the Committee, and encouraging all States in a position to do so to provide support to the secretariat of the Committee,

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<sup>297</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

<sup>298</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

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*Highlighting* the statements of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the World Health Organization, in which they expressed support and appreciation for the Scientific Committee's work in producing the most reliable and comprehensive sources of scientific information about the levels and effects of ionizing radiation and noted that, without it, safety guidance and safety standards could not be developed and maintained and priorities for research in the areas of sources and effects of ionizing radiation could not be determined,

*Noting with concern* the developments which resulted in the request by the Scientific Committee at its sixty-fifth session to the Office of Internal Oversight Services to conduct: (a) an investigation or inspection into the process to recruit the Scientific Secretary to ensure that the successful candidate is selected on the basis of scientific qualifications and credibility and that the process is aligned with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations; and (b) an internal audit or evaluation to clarify whether the United Nations Environment Programme is the most appropriate body to serve the Committee in the future,<sup>299</sup>

*Noting with concern also* that the sixty-fifth session of the Scientific Committee had to be postponed as a result of, inter alia, the continued delay in the appointment of the Secretary of the Scientific Committee, while recognizing the important work done by the Acting Secretary by preparing documents of a high scientific quality for the rescheduled sixty-fifth session,

*Noting* the concern of the Scientific Committee with regard to the lack of a mechanism for the deputization of the Scientific Officer as Secretary and disruptions in staffing at the secretariat, which has made the Committee seriously vulnerable and has hampered the efficient implementation of its approved programme of work and progress with the project plans on second primary cancers after radiotherapy and on epidemiological studies of radiation and cancer,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation for the valuable contribution that it has been making since its inception to wider knowledge and understanding of the levels, effects and risks of exposure to ionizing radiation and for fulfilling its original mandate with scientific authority and independence of judgment;

2. *Reaffirms* the decision to maintain the present functions and independent role of the Scientific Committee;

3. *Re-emphasizes* the need for the Scientific Committee to hold regular sessions on an annual basis so that its report will be able to reflect the latest developments and findings in the field of ionizing radiation and thereby provide updated information for dissemination among all States;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Scientific Committee, and takes note of the report on its sixty-fifth session,<sup>299</sup> including the report on the implementation of its long-term strategic directions, and encourages the Committee, over its coming sessions, to continue to work towards implementing strategies to support its long-term efforts to serve the scientific community, as well as wider audiences;

5. *Welcomes* the establishment of an ad hoc working group to assist the Scientific Committee in developing its future programme of work for the period 2020–2024 on the effects of radiation exposure and the biological mechanisms by which they occur;<sup>300</sup>

6. *Appreciates* the arrangements made by the Scientific Committee for activities to follow up on its 2013 evaluation of the levels and effects of radiation exposure due to the nuclear accident after the 2011 great east-Japan earthquake and tsunami;

7. *Looks forward* to the Scientific Committee's evaluations of selected health effects and of risk inference due to radiation exposure and its evaluation on lung cancer from exposure to radon, as their outcomes are relied upon by other organizations of the United Nations system;

8. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue its work, including its important activities to increase knowledge of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation from all sources, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

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<sup>299</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 46 (A/73/46)*.

<sup>300</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II, sect. B.

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9. *Supports* the intentions and plans of the Scientific Committee for conducting its programme of work of scientific review and assessment on behalf of the General Assembly, in particular its next periodic global surveys of radiation exposure, to be conducted in close cooperation with other relevant organizations, and requests the Committee to submit plans for its ongoing and future programme of work to the Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

10. *Welcomes* developments in streamlining procedures for publishing the reports of the Scientific Committee electronically on its official website and as sales publications, and calls upon the secretariat to continue both to monitor the timely publication of those reports and to strive to publish them within the same calendar year as their approval;

11. *Invites* the Scientific Committee to continue its consultations with scientists and experts from interested Member States in the process of preparing its future scientific reports, and requests the secretariat to continue to facilitate such consultations;

12. *Welcomes*, in this context, the readiness of Member States to provide the Scientific Committee with relevant information on the levels and effects of ionizing radiation, and invites the Committee to analyse and give due consideration to such information, particularly in the light of its own findings;

13. *Recalls* the strategy of the Scientific Committee to improve data collection, encourages in this regard Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned to provide further relevant data about levels, effects and risks of radiation exposure from various sources, which would greatly help in the preparation of future reports of the Committee to the General Assembly, and encourages the International Atomic Energy Agency, the World Health Organization, the International Labour Organization and other relevant organizations to further collaborate with the secretariat on arrangements for the collection, analysis and dissemination of data on radiation exposures of patients, workers and the public;

14. *Welcomes* the use and ongoing development by the secretariat of an online platform for collecting data on the exposure of patients and workers, and urges Member States to take part in the Scientific Committee's global surveys of radiation exposure and to nominate a national contact person to facilitate coordination of the collection and submission of data on the exposure of patients, workers and the public within the country;

15. *Takes note* of the Scientific Committee's outreach strategy for the coming years, in particular the enhancement of the website of the Committee and the publication of informative leaflets and posters in all the official languages of the United Nations, and continues to encourage that consideration be given to publishing the website in all of those languages;

16. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue, within existing resources, to service the Scientific Committee and to disseminate its findings to Member States, the scientific community and the public and to ensure that the administrative measures in place are appropriate, including clear roles and responsibilities of the various actors, so that the secretariat is able to adequately and efficiently service the Committee in a predictable and sustainable manner and effectively facilitate the use of the invaluable expertise offered to the Committee by its members in order that the Committee may discharge the responsibilities and mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly;

17. *Regrets* that the United Nations Environment Programme secretariat has not appointed a new Secretary of the Scientific Committee in a timely manner, thereby jeopardizing continuity in the Committee secretariat, and insists that all steps be taken to ensure such continuity and that any ongoing selection process is expedited and managed in a transparent manner;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen support for the Scientific Committee within existing resources, particularly with regard to the deputization of the Secretary of the Committee, the avoidance of disruptions in staffing and the increase in operational costs in the case of a further increase in membership, and to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on these issues;

19. *Encourages* Member States in a position to do so to make voluntary contributions to the general trust fund established by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and also to make contributions in kind, in order to support the work of the Scientific Committee, and the dissemination of its findings, in a sustainable manner;

20. *Invites* Algeria, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Norway and the United Arab Emirates to designate one scientist to attend the sixty-sixth session of the Scientific Committee as an observer, pursuant to paragraphs 19 and 20 of General Assembly resolution [72/76](#) of 7 December 2017 and the procedures referred to in paragraph 21 below;

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21. *Adopts*, pursuant to paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution [66/70](#) of 9 December 2011, a procedure for possible further increases in the membership of the Scientific Committee consisting of the following provisions:

(a) Interested Member States may avail themselves of the suggested framework of criteria and indicators for membership contained in the report of the Secretary-General on membership of the Scientific Committee and the financial implications of increased membership;<sup>301</sup>

(b) States Members of the United Nations may express interest in membership in the Scientific Committee at any time by addressing a note verbale to that effect to the Secretary-General;

(c) Every 10 years, the Secretary-General shall refer to the General Assembly a list of Member States that have expressed interest in membership in the Scientific Committee, the first such list having been provided in 2017<sup>302</sup> and the next list to be provided in 2027;

(d) After having been referred by the Secretary-General in accordance with subparagraph (c) above, each Member State shall be invited to designate a scientist as an observer to the annual session of the Scientific Committee in the year following its referral. During their first year as observers attending the annual session, observer scientists shall prepare an outline of the expertise and potential contribution of their State to the work of the Committee;

(e) The General Assembly, in accordance with subparagraph (g) below and with due consideration of the advice of the Scientific Committee, shall decide on the adoption of observers as States members of the Committee in the fourth year. The advice shall be based on due consideration of a fair degree of participation in accordance with the Secretary-General's suggested framework of criteria and indicators for membership;<sup>301</sup>

(f) On the fourth year after each round of accession of members, the Secretary-General shall report to the General Assembly on the experience of the increase in membership of the Scientific Committee with regard to its effectiveness, quality of work and equitable geographical distribution, on the financial impact of the recent increase in membership and on financial implications for future expansion;

(g) Any further increases in membership shall occur only after financial aspects are fully reviewed and if the secretariat of the Scientific Committee is appropriately strengthened, in accordance with conclusions drawn in previous reports of the Secretary-General.<sup>303</sup>

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<sup>301</sup> [A/66/524](#), para. 16.

<sup>302</sup> [A/72/557](#).

<sup>303</sup> Including [A/63/478](#), [A/66/524](#) and [A/69/350](#).

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## RESOLUTION 73/218

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/535, para. 17)<sup>1</sup>

### 73/218. Information and communications technologies for sustainable development

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 56/183 of 21 December 2001, 57/238 of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 59/220 of 22 December 2004, 60/252 of 27 March 2006, 62/182 of 19 December 2007, 63/202 of 19 December 2008, 64/187 of 21 December 2009, 65/141 of 20 December 2010, 66/184 of 22 December 2011, 67/195 of 21 December 2012, 68/198 of 20 December 2013, 69/204 of 19 December 2014, 70/184 of 22 December 2015, 71/212 of 21 December 2016 and 72/200 of 20 December 2017,

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolutions 2006/46 of 28 July 2006, 2008/3 of 18 July 2008, 2009/7 of 24 July 2009, 2010/2 of 19 July 2010, 2011/16 of 26 July 2011, 2012/5 of 24 July 2012, 2013/9 of 22 July 2013, 2014/27 of 16 July 2014, 2015/26 of 22 July 2015, 2016/22 of 27 July 2016 and 2018/28 of 24 July 2018, and taking note of Council resolution 2017/21 of 6 July 2017 on the assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,

*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,

*Recalling* its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

*Reaffirming* 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,

*Reaffirming also* the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito, Ecuador, from 17 to 20 October 2016,<sup>2</sup>

*Recognizing* the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development as the United Nations focal point for science, technology and innovation for development and as a forum in the examination of science and technology questions and the role of science and technology as enablers for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the advancement of understanding of science and technology policies, particularly in respect of developing countries, and the formulation of recommendations and guidelines on science and technology matters for development within the United Nations system,

*Recognizing also* the Commission on Science and Technology for Development as the United Nations focal point in the system-wide follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,

*Recognizing further* the role of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, which includes the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, the inter-agency task team on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals and the online platform, as a tool to

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<sup>1</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

facilitate multi-stakeholder collaboration and partnerships among Member States, civil society, the private sector, the scientific community, United Nations system entities and other stakeholders in order to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Recalling* the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society at its first phase, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,<sup>3</sup> and endorsed by the General Assembly,<sup>4</sup> and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the Summit at its second phase, held in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005,<sup>5</sup> and endorsed by the Assembly,<sup>6</sup>

*Noting* the references to information and communications technologies contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and reiterating calls for close alignment between the World Summit on the Information Society process and the 2030 Agenda, as well as other relevant intergovernmental outcomes,

*Recalling* the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,<sup>7</sup> held in New York on 15 and 16 December 2015, in which it took stock of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit, addressed potential information and communications technology gaps and identified areas for continued focus,

*Reaffirming* its common desire and commitment to the World Summit on the Information Society vision as laid out in the Geneva Declaration of Principles,

*Recognizing* that information and communications technologies present new opportunities and challenges and that there is a pressing need to address the major impediments that developing countries face in accessing new technologies, stressing the need to address prevailing challenges to bridge the digital divides, both between and within countries and between women and men, and between girls and boys, and to harness information and communications technologies for development, and recalling the need to emphasize quality of access to bridge digital and knowledge divides, using a multidimensional approach that includes speed, stability, affordability, language, training, capacity-building, local content and accessibility for persons with disabilities,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels,<sup>8</sup>

*Noting* the call for the continuation of annual reports on the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, to the Economic and Social Council, and reaffirming the role of the Commission, as set forth in Council resolution 2006/46, in assisting the Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up, in particular the review and assessment of progress made in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit,

*Noting also* the holding of the twenty-first session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in Geneva from 14 to 18 May 2018, and looking forward to the twenty-second session, which will have as priority themes “The impact of rapid technological change on sustainable development” and “The role of science, technology and innovation in building resilient communities, including through the contribution of citizen science”, thus providing a platform for all stakeholders to share experiences and pursue partnerships for capacity-building,

*Welcoming* the launch by the Secretary-General of the High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation, which will present its recommendations for effective and inclusive systems of digital cooperation among all relevant actors in the digital space, in 2019,

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<sup>3</sup> See [A/C.2/59/3](#), annex.

<sup>4</sup> See resolution [59/220](#).

<sup>5</sup> See [A/60/687](#).

<sup>6</sup> See resolution [60/252](#).

<sup>7</sup> Resolution [70/125](#).

<sup>8</sup> [A/73/66-E/2018/10](#).

*Noting* the holding of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum, jointly organized annually by the International Telecommunication Union, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Development Programme,

*Taking note* of the report of the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development entitled *The State of Broadband 2018: Broadband Catalysing Sustainable Development*, which provides an evaluation of the progress made towards achieving the Broadband Commission's advocacy targets for broadband and the state of broadband development worldwide, noting the need to bridge digital divides, and taking note of the report of the special session of the Commission, entitled "Working together to connect the next 1.5 billion by 2020", in which the Commission noted that less than half the world's population is currently connected to the Internet and fewer than 1 in 10 people in the least developed countries are connected,

*Recognizing* the fact that information and communications technologies are critical enablers of economic development and investment, with consequential benefits for employment and social welfare, by lowering barriers to economic participation, and that the increasing pervasiveness of information and communications technologies within society has had profound impacts on the ways in which Governments deliver services, businesses relate to consumers and citizens participate in public and private life,

*Stressing*, however, that recent progress notwithstanding, important and growing digital divides remain between and within developed and developing countries in terms of the availability, affordability and use of information and communications technologies and access to broadband, stressing also the urgent need to close digital divides, including with regard to such issues as the affordability of the Internet, and to ensure that the benefits of information and communications technologies, including new technologies, are available to all, in this regard reaffirming its commitment to significantly increase access to information and communications technologies and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in the least developed countries by 2020, and noting the many efforts to help bridge digital divides and expand access, including the Connect 2020 Agenda for Global Telecommunication/Information and Communications Technologies Development,

*Taking note* of the Working Group on the Digital Gender Divide of the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development and the recommendations for action in bridging the gender digital divide contained in its progress report, namely, understanding the context of the divide through sex-disaggregated data, integrating a gender perspective into strategies, policies, plans and budgets, addressing barriers, including access, affordability, safety, digital skills and relevance, and collaboration and sharing good practices, and taking note further of the report of the Working Group on Education of the Broadband Commission entitled "Digital skills for life and work", which highlights the emergence of a new global skills gap in which gender, class, geography and age can have a significant impact on whether a person is able to harness new technologies and presents strategies for ensuring that all groups of people can develop those skills,

*Recognizing* that realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all of the Sustainable Development Goals, and emphasizing the need to target science, technology and innovation strategies to address the empowerment of women and girls and to reduce inequalities, including the gender digital divide,

*Noting with great concern* the fact that a gender digital divide persists in women's access to and use of information and communications technologies, including in education, employment and other areas of economic and social development, and in this regard welcoming the many initiatives that focus on access, skills and leadership to promote the equal participation of women and girls in the digital age such as the International Girls in ICT Day of the International Telecommunication Union and the Global Partnership for Gender Equality in the Digital Age, known as the Equals Partnership,

*Recognizing* the need to focus on capacity development policies and sustainable support to further enhance the impact of activities and initiatives at the national and local levels aimed at providing advice, services and support, with a view to building an inclusive, people-centred and development-oriented information society,

*Noting* that a range of topics continues to emerge on issues related to the access to, use and applications of information and communications technologies and their effects on economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development,

*Reaffirming* that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online, and emphasizing that progress towards the vision of the World Summit on the Information Society should be considered not only as a

function of economic development and the spreading of information and communications technologies but also as a function of progress with respect to the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Reaffirming* also that Internet governance, including the process towards enhanced cooperation and the convening of the Internet Governance Forum, should continue to follow the provisions set forth in the outcomes of the summits held in Geneva and Tunis,

*Welcoming* the efforts undertaken by the host countries in organizing the meetings of the Internet Governance Forum, held in Athens in 2006, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2007, in Hyderabad, India, in 2008, in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, in 2009, in Vilnius in 2010, in Nairobi in 2011, in Baku in 2012, in Bali, Indonesia, in 2013, in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2014, in João Pessoa, Brazil, in 2015, in Guadalajara, Mexico, in 2016, in Geneva in 2017 and in Paris in 2018, and looking forward to the meeting of the Internet Governance Forum to be held in Berlin in 2019,

*Welcoming* also the establishment of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation, based on the proposal by the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development regarding the structure and composition of the Working Group, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution [70/125](#) of 16 December 2015 and endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution [2017/21](#),

*Noting* that information and communications technologies can help accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, and noting also that, inter alia, the International Telecommunication Union has an important role in supporting Member States in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Noting* also the convening of the World Telecommunication Development Conference by the International Telecommunication Union in Buenos Aires, from 9 to 20 October 2017, under the theme of “Information and communications technology for Sustainable Development Goals”,

*Noting further* that technological change includes new and powerful tools for development, and mindful of its impacts, opportunities and challenges, and that Governments, the private sector, international organizations, civil society and the technical and academic communities should take into account the social, economic, ethical, cultural and technical issues related to rapid technological advancements in order to deepen their understanding of how to harness their potential to support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Reaffirming* the value and principles of multi-stakeholder cooperation and engagement that have characterized the World Summit on the Information Society process since its inception, and recognizing that the effective participation, partnership and cooperation of Governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, the technical and academic communities and all other relevant stakeholders, within their respective roles and responsibilities, especially with balanced representation from developing countries, have been and continue to be vital in developing the information society,

*Conscious* of the challenges faced by States in preventing and combating the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes, including by terrorists, and emphasizing the need to continue international cooperation in this regard and to reinforce technical assistance and capacity-building activities, at their request, for the prevention, prosecution and punishment of such use in accordance with national and international law,

*Reiterating* the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

*Recommitting* to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

1. *Recognizes* that information and communications technologies have the potential to provide new solutions to development challenges, particularly in the context of globalization, and can foster sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, competitiveness, access to information and knowledge, trade and development, poverty eradication and social inclusion that will help to expedite the integration of all countries, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, into the global economy;

2. *Welcomes* the remarkable evolution and diffusion of information and communications technologies, underpinned by the contributions of both the public and private sectors, which have seen penetration into almost all corners of the globe, created new opportunities for social interactions, enabled new business models and contributed to economic growth and development in all other sectors, while noting the unique and emerging challenges related to their evolution and diffusion;

3. *Recognizes* the potential of information and communications technologies to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>9</sup> and other internationally agreed development goals, noting that they can accelerate progress across all 17 Sustainable Development Goals, accordingly urges all Governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, the technical and academic communities and all other relevant stakeholders to integrate information and communications technologies into their approaches to implementing the Goals, and requests United Nations system entities facilitating the World Summit on the Information Society action lines to review their reporting and workplans to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

4. *Reaffirms* its commitment to bridging digital and knowledge divides, recognizes that its approach must be multidimensional and include an evolving understanding of what constitutes access, emphasizing the quality of that access, and acknowledges that speed, stability, affordability, language, local content and accessibility for persons with disabilities are now core elements of quality and that high-speed broadband is already an essential enabler of sustainable development;

5. *Stresses* the important role played by the private sector, civil society and technical communities in information and communications technologies;

6. *Encourages* strengthened and continuing cooperation between and among stakeholders from both developed and developing countries, within their respective roles and responsibilities, to ensure the effective implementation of the outcomes of the Geneva<sup>3</sup> and Tunis<sup>5</sup> phases of the World Summit on the Information Society, through, inter alia, the promotion of national, regional and international multi-stakeholder partnerships, including public-private partnerships, and the promotion of national and regional multi-stakeholder thematic platforms in a joint effort and dialogue with developing countries, including the least developed countries, development partners and actors in the information and communications technologies sector;

7. *Notes* the progress that has been made by United Nations system entities in cooperation with national Governments, regional commissions and other stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the implementation of the action lines contained in the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society, and encourages the use of those action lines for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

8. *Also notes* that the digital economy is an important and growing part of the global economy and that connectivity is correlated with increases in gross domestic product, and recognizes the critical importance of expanding the participation of all countries, in particular developing countries, in the digital economy;

9. *Urges* a continued focus on maximizing development gains from e-commerce, through initiatives such as eTrade for All, launched at the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Nairobi from 17 to 22 July 2016, which provides a new approach to trade development through electronic exchanges by allowing developing countries to more easily navigate the supply of technical assistance for building capacity in e-commerce readiness and by enabling donors to have a clear picture of the programmes that they could fund;

10. *Recognizes* in this regard that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development has initiated and implemented rapid e-trade readiness assessments of least developed countries in cooperation with other donors and organizations in order to raise awareness of opportunities and challenges related to leveraging e-commerce in the least developed countries;

11. *Welcomes* the holding of the second session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on e-Commerce and the Digital Economy, its policy recommendations and its decision to recommend to the Trade and Development Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development the establishment of a working group on measuring e-commerce and the digital economy,<sup>10</sup>

12. *Also welcomes* the holding of e-Commerce Week from 16 to 20 April 2018, with the theme of “Development dimensions of digital platforms”, and of the first Africa e-Commerce Week, in Nairobi, from 10 to 14 December 2018;

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<sup>9</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>10</sup> See [TD/B/EDE/1/3](#), chap. I, para. 12.

13. *Further welcomes* the work of the Information for All Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which aims to assist Member States in formulating policies to bridge digital divides and ensure equitable knowledge societies, and also welcomes the holding of Global Media and Information Literacy Week from 24 to 31 October 2018;

14. *Recognizes* that, despite recent progress and significant gains, there is still uneven growth in access to and use of information and communications technologies, and expresses concern over the substantial continued digital and broadband divides between and within developed and developing countries, including the fact that there are 97 mobile broadband subscriptions per 100 people in developed countries, compared with 48 in developing countries and less than 22 in the least developed countries, and that the cost of access is higher in developing countries in relation to average household income, resulting in a lack of affordable access to information and communications technologies;

15. *Encourages* research and development, and the development of viable strategies that could result in further competitiveness, investment and rapid reductions in the cost of information and communications technologies, and urges all relevant stakeholders to address the growing digital divides among and within countries through, inter alia, strengthened enabling policy environments at all levels, legal and regulatory frameworks conducive to increased investment and innovation, public-private partnerships, universal access strategies and international cooperation to improve affordability, education, capacity-building, multilingualism, cultural preservation, investment and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms;

16. *Recognizes* that a gender digital divide persists and that the proportion of women using the Internet is 12 per cent lower than that of men worldwide and 33 per cent lower in the least developed countries, notes with concern that, while the gender digital divide has narrowed in many regions since 2013, it has widened overall, in particular in the least developed countries and in Africa, in this regard calls upon all stakeholders to ensure the full participation of women in the information society and women's access to information and communications technologies for development, including new technologies, in this respect reiterates its request for relevant United Nations system entities, including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), to support the implementation and monitoring of the action lines contained in the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society by enhancing the emphasis on gender, and reaffirms the commitment to ensure women's full participation in decision-making processes related to information and communications technologies;

17. *Notes* the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional level, facilitated by the regional commissions, as observed in the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit at the regional and international levels;<sup>8</sup>

18. *Encourages* the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, within their respective mandates and strategic plans, to contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, and emphasizes the importance of allocating adequate resources in this regard;

19. *Acknowledges* the extension of the mandate of the Internet Governance Forum through 2025, as set out in the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society;<sup>7</sup>

20. *Recognizes* the importance of the Internet Governance Forum and its mandate as a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue on various matters, as reflected in paragraph 72 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society,<sup>5</sup> including discussion of public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to submit, as part of his annual reporting on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels, information on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Working Group on Improvements to the Internet Governance Forum,<sup>11</sup> in particular those on enhancing the participation of developing countries;

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<sup>11</sup> [A/67/65-E/2012/48](#) and [A/67/65/Corr.1-E/2012/48/Corr.1](#).



21. *Stresses* the need for the enhanced participation of Governments and stakeholders from all developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in all meetings of the Internet Governance Forum, and in this regard invites Member States, as well as other relevant stakeholders, to support the participation of Governments and all other stakeholders from developing countries in the Forum itself, as well as in the preparatory meetings;

22. *Notes* the work of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation, established by the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution [70/125](#), to develop recommendations on how to further implement enhanced cooperation as envisioned in the Tunis Agenda, and also notes that the Working Group ensured the full involvement of Governments and other relevant stakeholders, in particular from developing countries, taking into account all their diverse views and expertise;

23. *Also notes* that the Working Group held five meetings between September 2016 and January 2018 at which it discussed inputs from Member States and other stakeholders, as stipulated by the General Assembly in its resolution [70/125](#);

24. *Takes note* of the report of the Chair of the Working Group,<sup>12</sup> which includes references to the full texts of all proposals and contributions, and expresses its gratitude to the Chair and all participants who submitted inputs and contributed to the work of the Working Group;

25. *Welcomes* the good progress made by the Working Group in many areas and the fact that consensus seemed to emerge on some issues, while significant divergence of views in a number of other issues persisted, and in that regard regrets that the Working Group could not find agreement on recommendations on how to further implement enhanced cooperation as envisioned in the Tunis Agenda;

26. *Calls* for continued dialogue and work on the implementation of enhanced cooperation as envisaged in the Tunis Agenda;

27. *Recognizes* that a lack of access to affordable and reliable technologies and services remains a critical challenge in many developing countries, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, middle-income countries, countries in situations of conflict, post-conflict countries and countries affected by natural disasters, and that all efforts should be deployed to reduce the price of information and communications technologies and broadband access, bearing in mind that deliberate interventions, including through research and development and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, may be necessary to spur the development of lower-cost connectivity options;

28. *Also recognizes* that information and communications technologies present new opportunities and challenges and that there is a pressing need to address the major impediments that developing countries face in engaging with and accessing new technologies, such as an appropriate enabling environment, sufficient resources, infrastructure, education, capacity, investment and connectivity, as well as issues related to technology ownership, setting standards and technology flows, and in this regard urges all stakeholders to ensure adequate means of implementation, including strengthened capacity-building of developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, towards a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy;

29. *Further recognizes* the need to harness the potential of information and communications technologies as critical enablers of sustainable development and to overcome digital divides, and stresses that capacity-building for the productive use of such technologies should be given due consideration in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;<sup>13</sup>

30. *Notes* that, while a solid foundation for capacity-building in information and communications technologies has been laid in many areas with regard to building the information society, there is still a need for continuing efforts to address the ongoing challenges, especially for developing countries and the least developed countries, and draws attention to the positive impact of broadened capacity development that involves institutions, organizations and entities dealing with information and communications technologies and Internet governance issues;

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<sup>12</sup> See E/CN.16/2018/CRP.3.

<sup>13</sup> Resolution [69/313](#), annex.

31. *Recognizes* the importance of assisting developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to address the challenges and opportunities in relation to the use of the Internet and e-commerce to develop their international trade capacities, among other things;

32. *Also recognizes* the importance of the free flow of information and knowledge, as the amount of information distributed worldwide grows and the role of communication becomes all the more important, and acknowledges that the mainstreaming of information and communications technologies in school curricula, open access to data, the fostering of competition, the creation of transparent, predictable, independent and non-discriminatory regulatory and legal systems, proportionate taxation and licensing fees, access to finance, the facilitation of public-private partnerships, multi-stakeholder cooperation, national and regional broadband strategies, efficient allocation of the radio frequency spectrum, infrastructure-sharing models, community-based approaches and public access facilities have in many countries facilitated significant gains in connectivity and sustainable development;

33. *Calls upon* all stakeholders to keep the goal of bridging digital divides, in their different forms, an area of priority concern, to put into effect sound strategies that contribute to the development of e-government and to continue to focus on pro-poor information and communications technology policies and applications, including access to broadband at the grass-roots level, with a view to narrowing the digital divides among and within countries and, in turn, building information and knowledge societies;

34. *Notes* the commitments made in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and recognizes that official development assistance and other concessional financial flows for information and communications technologies can make significant contributions to development outcomes, in particular where they can reduce the risk of public and private investment, and increase the use of information and communications technologies to strengthen good governance and tax collection;

35. *Recognizes* the critical importance of private sector investment in information and communications technology infrastructure, content and services, encourages Governments to create legal and regulatory frameworks conducive to increased investment and innovation, and also recognizes the importance of public-private partnerships, universal access strategies and other approaches to that end;

36. *Welcomes* the holding of the third annual Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development, takes note of its intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations, looks forward to further advancement in the follow-up process, and welcomes the work of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, the progress made in operationalizing the three components of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and the holding of the third annual multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals;

37. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Economic and Social Council, a report on the status of the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the review process of the World Summit on the Information Society, the summary by the Co-Chairs of the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals<sup>14</sup> and other relevant processes, as part of his annual report on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels;

39. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Information and communications technologies for sustainable development”, unless otherwise agreed.

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<sup>14</sup> [E/HLPF/2017/4](#).

RESOLUTION 73/219

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/536/Add.1, para. 13),<sup>15</sup> by a recorded vote of 184 to 1, with no abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* United States of America

*Abstaining:* None

**73/219. International trade and development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 56/178 of 21 December 2001, 57/235 of 20 December 2002, 58/197 of 23 December 2003, 63/203 of 19 December 2008, 66/185 of 22 December 2011, 67/196 of 21 December 2012, 68/199 of 20 December 2013, 69/205 of 19 December 2014, 70/187 of 22 December 2015, 71/214 of 21 December 2016 and 72/202 of 20 December 2017,

*Taking note* of its resolutions 59/221 of 22 December 2004, 60/184 of 22 December 2005, 61/186 of 20 December 2006, 62/184 of 19 December 2007, 64/188 of 21 December 2009 and 65/142 of 20 December 2010,

*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,

*Reaffirming further* its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and its general guidelines and principles, and its

<sup>15</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

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,

*Recognizing* that international trade is an engine for inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction, that it contributes to the promotion of sustainable development and that it is recognized as one of the action areas of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and one of the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

*Recognizing also* the need to ensure that the benefits of trade are more widely shared,

*Recognizing further* that multilateral rules and disciplines are the best guarantee against protectionism and are fundamental to the transparency, predictability and stability of international trade,

*Recognizing* the critical role of women as producers and traders and the need to address their specific challenges in order to facilitate women's equal and active participation in domestic, regional and international trade,

*Reiterating* the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

*Recommitting* to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Trade and Development Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development<sup>16</sup> and the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>17</sup>

2. *Reiterates* that Member States will not be able to achieve the ambitious Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>18</sup> without a revitalized and enhanced global partnership and comparably ambitious means of implementation, and that a revitalized global partnership will facilitate an intensive global engagement in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, bringing together Governments, civil society, the private sector, the United Nations system and other actors and mobilizing all available resources;

3. *Reaffirms* that international trade is an engine for inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction and that it contributes to the promotion of sustainable development, while taking note of its possible catalytic effect towards structural transformation and industrialization, particularly in developing countries;

4. *Also reaffirms* the commitments made through the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development<sup>19</sup> in, inter alia, international trade as an important action area for sustainable development;

5. *Further reaffirms* that the gender-responsive implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals is essential to achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, and notes the need for a broader use of gender impact assessments of trade policies before, during and after their implementation;

6. *Reaffirms* that global collective action through multilateral trade cooperation is essential in tackling challenges to development, that revitalizing a global partnership is critical for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and that the multilateral trading system continues to be the cornerstone of such a partnership and should be regarded as a global public good;

7. *Recognizes* that the World Trade Organization is increasingly affected by insufficient progress in multilateral trade negotiations and that it is imperative for the World Trade Organization to address issues that are at the heart of current problems in international trade, and recognizes in this regard the need to strengthen that organization, with a view to ensuring the continued viability and effectiveness of its dispute settlement, negotiating and monitoring functions;

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<sup>16</sup> [A/73/15 \(Part I\)](#) and [A/73/15 \(Part II\)](#).

<sup>17</sup> [A/73/208](#).

<sup>18</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>19</sup> Resolution [69/313](#), annex.

#### IV. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Second Committee

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8. *Calls upon* all members of the World Trade Organization to conclude negotiations on fisheries subsidies in 2019, consistent with the instructions from the eleventh Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization and with a view to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals;

9. *Recommits* to promoting a universal, rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, as well as meaningful trade liberalization;

10. *Emphasizes* the need to combat protectionism in all its forms and to rectify any trade-distorting measures that are inconsistent with World Trade Organization agreements, recognizing the right of countries, in particular developing countries, to fully utilize flexibilities consistent with their World Trade Organization commitments and obligations, and recognizes that the work of the World Trade Organization shall maintain development at its centre, with provisions for special and differential treatment remaining integral;

11. *Urges* the international community to adopt urgent and effective measures to eliminate the use of unilateral economic, financial or trade measures that are not authorized by relevant organs of the United Nations, that are inconsistent with the principles of international law or the Charter of the United Nations or that contravene the basic principles of the multilateral trading system and that affect, in particular, but not exclusively, developing countries;

12. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the Trade Facilitation Agreement of the World Trade Organization on 22 February 2017, calls upon members of the World Trade Organization that have not yet done so to ratify the Agreement, and stresses the importance of providing developing and least developed countries with assistance and support for capacity-building in implementing the Agreement;

13. *Notes* the commitments to working to ensure that bilateral, regional and plurilateral trade agreements complement the multilateral trading system, and recognizes that they can play an important role in complementing global liberalization initiatives;

14. *Emphasizes* the importance of facilitating the accession of developing countries to the World Trade Organization, recognizing the contribution that their accession would make to the rapid and full integration of those countries into the multilateral trading system, urges in this regard the acceleration of the accession process on a technical and legal basis and in an expeditious and transparent manner for developing countries that have applied for membership in the World Trade Organization, and reaffirms the importance of that organization's decision WT/L/508/Add.1 of 25 July 2012 on accession by the least developed countries;

15. *Takes note* of the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Nairobi in July 2016, as well as the outcome of the eleventh Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Buenos Aires from 10 to 13 December 2017, and expresses its appreciation to the Government of Argentina for hosting the meeting;

16. *Looks forward* to the convening of the twelfth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization in Astana from 8 to 11 June 2020, and expresses its appreciation to the Government of Kazakhstan for hosting the meeting;

17. *Recalls* the importance of members of the World Trade Organization working together with a view to achieving positive outcomes at the twelfth Ministerial Conference and beyond in a balanced, inclusive and transparent way, with a sense of urgency and solidarity, and to further working to strengthen the World Trade Organization;

18. *Reiterates* the important role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point within the United Nations system for the integrated treatment of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development, and in contributing to supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

19. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to monitor and assess the evolution of the international trading system and its trends from a development perspective, with particular attention to its potential contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals, and to monitor and assess persistent and emerging development challenges to trade from a sustainable development perspective, in accordance with its mandate;

20. *Recognizes* the commitment to continue to address the needs of small, vulnerable economies and to favourably consider the adoption of such measures as would facilitate their fuller integration into the multilateral trading system, taking into account the needs of small, vulnerable economies in all areas of negotiations, without

creating a subcategory of members of the World Trade Organization, and in this regard encourages progress on the implementation of the World Trade Organization work programme on small economies, which supports their efforts towards sustainable development, as also reflected in the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway;<sup>20</sup>

21. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

22. *Takes note* of the advances by the Enhanced Integrated Framework in supporting the least developed countries in their use of trade as an engine of growth and as a means of achieving sustainable development and poverty reduction;

23. *Highlights* the importance of promoting the integration of least developed countries into the international trading system, including by doubling their share of world exports by 2020, as recognized in Sustainable Development Goal 17, and in this regard calls for greater efforts in implementing fully the duty-free, quota-free market access initiatives for least developed countries and strengthened efforts to operationalize the World Trade Organization services waiver for least developed countries, consistent with that organization's decision WT/MIN(15)/48-WT/L/982 of 19 December 2015 on the implementation of preferential treatment in favour of services and service suppliers of least developed countries and increasing their participation in services trade;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and on developments in the international trading system, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, in line with the content of paragraph 19 above, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "International trade and development", unless otherwise agreed.

#### RESOLUTION 73/220

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/536/Add.2, para. 7),<sup>21</sup> by a recorded vote of 184 to 1, with no abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* United States of America

*Abstaining:* None

<sup>20</sup> Resolution 69/15, annex.

<sup>21</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).



**73/220. International financial system and development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [55/186](#) of 20 December 2000 and [56/181](#) of 21 December 2001, entitled “Towards a strengthened and stable international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity”, as well as its resolutions [57/241](#) of 20 December 2002, [58/202](#) of 23 December 2003, [59/222](#) of 22 December 2004, [60/186](#) of 22 December 2005, [61/187](#) of 20 December 2006, [62/185](#) of 19 December 2007, [63/205](#) of 19 December 2008, [64/190](#) of 21 December 2009, [65/143](#) of 20 December 2010, [66/187](#) of 22 December 2011, [67/197](#) of 21 December 2012, [68/201](#) of 20 December 2013, [69/206](#) of 19 December 2014, [70/188](#) of 22 December 2015, [71/215](#) of 21 December 2016 and [72/203](#) of 20 December 2017,

*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,

*Recalling* the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008,<sup>22</sup>

*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>23</sup> its resolution [56/210 B](#) of 9 July 2002, in which it endorsed the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>24</sup> the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,<sup>25</sup> Agenda 21,<sup>26</sup> the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21<sup>27</sup> and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,<sup>28</sup>

*Recalling further* the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document,<sup>29</sup> recognizing the work undertaken by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group of the General Assembly to follow up on the issues contained in the Outcome of the Conference, and taking note of its progress report,<sup>30</sup>

*Recalling* the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>31</sup>

<sup>22</sup> Resolution [63/239](#), annex.

<sup>23</sup> Resolution [55/2](#).

<sup>24</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>25</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>26</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>27</sup> Resolution [S-19/2](#), annex.

<sup>28</sup> *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 2, annex.

<sup>29</sup> Resolution [63/303](#), annex.

<sup>30</sup> [A/64/884](#).

<sup>31</sup> Resolution [66/288](#), annex.

*Appreciating* the fact that the Summit of the Group of 20, held in Hangzhou, China, on 4 and 5 September 2016, the first Summit of the Group of 20 to take place in a developing country following the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with the broad participation of developing countries, including the Chair of the Group of 77, endorsed the Group of 20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as an important contribution to the global implementation of the 2030 Agenda, recalling that the Summit of the Group of 20, held in Hamburg, Germany, on 7 and 8 July 2017, endorsed the Hamburg Update: Taking Forward the Group of 20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and looking forward to their implementation, while urging the Group of 20 to continue to engage in an inclusive and transparent manner with other States Members of the United Nations in its work in order to ensure that the initiatives of the Group of 20 complement or strengthen the United Nations system,

*Noting* the holding of the twenty-second Saint Petersburg International Economic Forum in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 24 to 26 May 2018,

*Recognizing* that the remaining effects of the world financial and economic crisis have the potential to undermine debt sustainability and progress towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, especially in developing countries, and stressing the need to avoid the recurrence of such crises, including by addressing the lessons learned, improving confidence, sustaining economic growth and promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including young people, older persons and people with disabilities, and by continuing to promote global economic stability and the underlying institutional reforms required to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Expressing concern* about the adverse impact of the continuing fragility of the global economy, the slow pace of the restoration of global growth and trade, increasing protectionism and inward-looking policies, with increasing systemic risks that threaten financial stability, including in developing countries,

*Reaffirming* the purposes of the United Nations, as set forth in its Charter, including to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of common ends, and reiterating the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting development,

*Recognizing* the contribution of the original and reconvened Panel of Eminent Persons of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in the context of the United Nations sustainable development pillar and United Nations reform, as well as the contribution of the United Nations system to sustainable finance and investments in the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognizing also the contribution of the independent team of advisers to the Economic and Social Council dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Emphasizing* that the international financial system should bolster sustainable, inclusive and sustained economic growth, sustainable development and job creation, promote financial inclusion and support efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and hunger, in particular in developing countries, while allowing for the coherent mobilization of all sources of financing for development,

*Taking note* of the work of the United Nations in the area of external debt sustainability and development,

*Recognizing* the importance of scaling up international tax cooperation, and in this regard welcoming the work of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters and the support to tax authorities of developing countries through the Addis Tax Initiative, which contribute to the mobilization of domestic resources for the Sustainable Development Goals and the curbing of illicit financial flows and tax evasion,

*Recognizing also* the need to reduce mechanistic reliance on credit-rating agency assessments, including in regulations, and to promote increased competition as well as measures to avoid conflict of interest in the provision of credit ratings in order to improve the quality of ratings, acknowledging the efforts of the Financial Stability Board and others in this area, expressing support for establishing greater transparency requirements for evaluation standards of credit-rating agencies, and affirming the commitment to continue ongoing work on these issues,

*Acknowledging* the 2016 implementation of quota and governance reforms at the International Monetary Fund and the 2018 agreement on shareholding reforms at the World Bank Group, including a general capital increase, a selective capital increase and a financial sustainability framework, and acknowledging also that, in October 2016, the Chinese renminbi officially became the fifth currency in the special drawing rights basket, pursuant to the decision taken by the Executive Board of the Fund in November 2015,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>32</sup>
2. *Recognizes* the need to continue and intensify efforts to enhance the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems, reiterates the importance of ensuring their openness, fairness and inclusiveness in order to complement national efforts to ensure sustainable development, including strong, sustained, balanced, inclusive and equitable economic growth, and that all men and women, in particular the poor and vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources and appropriate financial services, and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>33</sup> and encourages the international financial institutions to align their programmes and policies with the 2030 Agenda in accordance with their mandates;
3. *Notes* that the United Nations, on the basis of its universal membership and legitimacy, provides a unique and key forum for discussing international economic issues and their impact on development, and reaffirms that the United Nations is well positioned to participate in various reform processes aimed at improving and strengthening the effective functioning of the international financial system and architecture, while recognizing that the United Nations and the international financial institutions have complementary mandates that make the coordination of their actions crucial;
4. *Recognizes* the important efforts undertaken nationally, regionally and internationally to respond to the challenges posed by the latest global financial and economic crisis, and also recognizes that more needs to be done in order to promote the economic recovery, to manage the consequences of volatility in global financial and commodity markets, to tackle high unemployment and indebtedness in several countries, as well as widespread fiscal strains, to reinforce the banking sector, including by increasing its transparency and accountability, to address systemic fragilities and imbalances, to reform and strengthen the international financial system and to continue and to enhance the coordination of financial and economic policies at the international level;
5. *Stresses* the critical importance of a stable, inclusive and enabling global economic environment for the advancement of sustainable development, for the reliable and effective financing of development and for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, mobilizing public and private, as well as domestic and international resources;
6. *Reiterates* that debtors and creditors must work together in a transparent manner to prevent and resolve unsustainable debt situations and that maintaining sustainable debt levels is the responsibility of the borrowing countries, acknowledging, however, that lenders also have a responsibility to lend in a way that does not undermine a country's debt sustainability, and in this regard takes note of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development principles on responsible sovereign lending and borrowing and recognizes the applicable requirements of the International Monetary Fund debt limits policy and/or the World Bank non-concessional borrowing policy, as well as the safeguards of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in its statistical system to enhance the debt sustainability of recipient countries, and will work towards a global consensus on guidelines for debtor and creditor responsibilities in borrowing by and lending to sovereigns, building on existing initiatives;
7. *Invites*, in this regard, the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General to give appropriate consideration to the central role of maintaining and facilitating the financial and macroeconomic stability of developing countries, including debt sustainability, and of supporting an appropriately enabling domestic and international economic, financial and regulatory environment for the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including financial inclusion, and in this regard invites all major institutional stakeholders, including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to support these efforts, in accordance with their respective mandates;
8. *Encourages*, in this regard, the Economic and Social Council to consider, at its annual forum on financing for development follow-up, a discussion and analysis of systemic issues and challenges, taking into account the roles of the international financial institutions, including the International Monetary Fund, and of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in accordance with their respective mandates, pursuant to the relevant resolutions on this

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<sup>32</sup> [A/73/280](#).

<sup>33</sup> Resolution 70/1.

matter, including its resolution 69/313 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development and the mandate of the annual forum on financing for development follow-up set out therein;

9. *Resolves* to strengthen the coherence and consistency of multilateral financial, investment, trade and development policy and environment institutions and platforms and to increase cooperation between major international institutions, while respecting mandates and governance structures, and commits itself to taking better advantage of relevant United Nations forums for promoting universal and holistic coherence and international commitments to sustainable development, building on the vision of the Monterrey Consensus, with a view to supporting the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

10. *Recalls* that countries must have the flexibility necessary to implement countercyclical measures and pursue tailored and targeted responses to the various types of shocks, including economic and financial crises, and calls for conditionalities to be streamlined to ensure that they are timely, tailored and targeted and that they support developing countries in the face of financial, economic and development challenges;

11. *Notes*, in this regard, the increase in resources and the improvement of the lending framework of the International Monetary Fund through, inter alia, streamlined conditions and flexible instruments, such as the precautionary and liquidity line, the flexible credit line and the rapid financing instrument, and the refinement of the lending framework for low-income countries, while also noting that new and ongoing programmes should not contain unwarranted procyclical conditionalities;

12. *Invites* the multilateral development banks and other international development banks to continue to provide both concessional and non-concessional, stable, long-term development finance by leveraging contributions and capital and by mobilizing resources for developing countries from multiple sources, for example from capital markets, and stresses that development banks should make optimal use of their resources and balance sheets, consistent with maintaining their financial integrity, and should update and develop their policies in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals, as appropriate;

13. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the ongoing work of the New Development Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank in the global development finance architecture, and encourages enhanced regional and subregional cooperation, including through regional and subregional development banks, commercial and reserve currency arrangements and other regional and subregional initiatives;

14. *Encourages*, in this regard, the multilateral development banks to continue to move forward on flexible, concessional, fast-disbursing and front-loaded assistance that will substantially and quickly assist developing countries facing financing gaps in their efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, taking into consideration the individual absorptive capacities and debt sustainability of those countries;

15. *Also encourages* multilateral development banks, within their respective mandates, to continue to expand technical assistance, disseminate and share their knowledge and best practices and enhance the multiplier effect of their financing by leveraging more resources from more sources, including by mobilizing private investment, to provide innovative and integral solutions to multidimensional development problems, in particular in developing and emerging economies;

16. *Emphasizes* the relevance of inclusion in the international financial system at all levels and the importance of considering financial inclusion as a policy objective in financial regulation, in accordance with national priorities and legislation;

17. *Recognizes* that it is important that the International Monetary Fund continue to be adequately resourced, and supports and reiterates its commitment to further governance reform at both the Fund and the World Bank to adapt to changes in the global economy;

18. *Calls for* the completion of the fifteenth general review of quotas of the International Monetary Fund, including a new quota formula, at the meetings of the Fund and the World Bank Group to be held in the spring of 2019, and no later than at the annual meetings of the Fund and the Group in 2019, emphasizes that the new quota formula, as a basis for a realignment of quota shares, will result in increased shares for dynamic economies in line with their relative positions in the world economy and hence likely in the share of emerging market and developing countries as a whole, while protecting the voice and representation of the poorest members, and supports the continued examination of the broader use of special drawing rights as a way to enhance the resilience of the international monetary system;

19. *Acknowledges* the importance of the international financial institutions supporting, in line with their mandates, the policy space of each country, while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments, in particular developing countries, and recommit to the broadening and strengthening of the voice and participation of developing countries, including African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, middle-income countries and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, in international economic decision-making, norm-setting and global economic governance;

20. *Reaffirms* that cohesive, nationally owned sustainable development strategies, supported by integrated national financing frameworks, will be at the heart of efforts, reiterates that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, expresses respect for each country's policy space and leadership to implement policies for the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions and for sustainable development, while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments, at the same time recognizes that national development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems and strengthened and enhanced global economic governance, and that processes to develop and facilitate the availability of appropriate knowledge and technologies globally, as well as capacity-building, are also critical, and commits to pursuing policy coherence and an enabling environment for sustainable development at all levels and by all actors, and to reinventing the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development;

21. *Recommits* to a redoubling of its efforts to substantially reduce illicit financial flows by 2030, with a view to eventually eliminating them, including by combating tax evasion and corruption through strengthened national regulation and increased international cooperation;

22. *Recognizes* the role of special drawing rights as an international reserve asset, acknowledges that special drawing rights allocations helped to supplement international reserves in response to the world financial and economic crisis, thus contributing to the stability of the international financial system and global economic resilience, and supports the continued examination of the broader use of special drawing rights as a way to enhance the resilience of the international monetary system, including with reference to their potential role in the international reserve system;

23. *Takes note* of the work by the Financial Stability Board on financial market reform, commits to sustaining or strengthening frameworks for macroprudential regulation and countercyclical buffers, reaffirms the commitment to hasten completion of the reform agenda on financial market regulation, including assessing and if necessary reducing the systemic risks associated with non-bank financial intermediation, markets for derivatives, securities lending and repurchase agreements, and also reaffirms the commitment to addressing the risk created by "too-big-to-fail" financial institutions and to addressing cross-border elements in effective resolution of troubled, systemically important financial institutions;

24. *Reiterates* that effective, inclusive multilateral surveillance should be at the centre of crisis prevention efforts, stresses the need to continue to strengthen surveillance of the financial policies of countries, and in this regard notes the current efforts to update the surveillance approach of the International Monetary Fund to better integrate bilateral and multilateral surveillance, along with cross-border and cross-sectoral linkages with macroeconomic and macroprudential policies, while paying closer attention to the spillover effects from national economic and financial policies onto the global economy;

25. *Also reiterates* the need to resolve to reduce mechanistic reliance on credit-rating agency assessments, including in regulations and to promote increased competition as well as measures to avoid conflict of interest in the provision of credit ratings;

26. *Invites* the international financial and banking institutions to continue to enhance the transparency and analytical rigour of risk-rating mechanisms, noting that sovereign risk assessments should maximize the use of objective and transparent parameters, which can be facilitated by high-quality data and analysis, and encourages relevant institutions, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue their work on the issue, including the potential impact of the role played by private credit rating agencies on the development prospects of developing countries, in accordance with their mandates;

27. *Welcomes* efforts by new development banks to develop safeguard systems in open consultation with stakeholders on the basis of established international standards, and encourages all development banks to establish or maintain social and environmental safeguard systems, including on human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment, that are transparent, effective, efficient and time-sensitive;

28. *Recognizes* the need for the international financial institutions, as appropriate, to promote gender mainstreaming in their policies and programmes, including macroeconomic, job creation and structural reform policies and programmes, in accordance with relevant national priorities and strategies;

29. *Urges* multilateral donors, and invites international financial institutions and regional development banks, within their respective mandates, to review and implement policies that support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reaches women and girls, in particular in rural and remote areas;

30. *Recommits* itself to enabling women's full and equal participation in the economy and their equal access to decision-making processes and leadership;

31. *Reiterates* that States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;

32. *Requests*, in this regard, the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution with input from the major institutional stakeholders, including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in accordance with their respective mandates;

33. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "International financial system and development", unless otherwise agreed.

#### RESOLUTION 73/221

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/536/Add.3, para. 8)<sup>34</sup>

##### 73/221. External debt sustainability and development

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 58/203 of 23 December 2003, 59/223 of 22 December 2004, 60/187 of 22 December 2005, 61/188 of 20 December 2006, 62/186 of 19 December 2007, 63/206 of 19 December 2008, 64/191 of 21 December 2009, 65/144 of 20 December 2010, 66/189 of 22 December 2011, 67/198 of 21 December 2012, 68/202 of 20 December 2013, 69/207 of 19 December 2014, 70/190 of 22 December 2015, 71/216 of 21 December 2016 and 72/204 of 20 December 2017,

*Noting* the work of the United Nations in this area,

*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,

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<sup>34</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.



*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement<sup>35</sup> and its early entry into force, and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>36</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Recalling* the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document,<sup>37</sup>

*Emphasizing* that debt sustainability is essential for underpinning growth, underlining the importance of debt sustainability, debt transparency and effective debt management to the efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, and acknowledging that debt crises are costly and disruptive, including for employment and productive investment, and tend to be followed by cuts in public spending, including on health and education, affecting the poor and vulnerable in particular,

*Reaffirming* that each country has primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies, including in the area of debt management, is central to the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing that national efforts, including to achieve development goals and to maintain debt sustainability, should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty,

*Reiterating* that debt sustainability depends on a confluence of many factors at the international and national levels, and emphasizing that country-specific circumstances and the impact of external shocks, such as volatile commodity and energy prices, and of international capital flows, should continue to be taken into account in debt sustainability analyses,

*Expressing concern* about the adverse impact of the continuing fragility of the global economy and the slow pace of the restoration of global growth and trade, including the impact on development, cognizant that the global economy remains in a challenging phase, with many downside risks, including net negative capital flows from some emerging and developing economies, continued low commodity prices, high unemployment, in particular among young people, and rising private and public indebtedness in many developing countries, and stressing the need for continuing efforts to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and to reform and strengthen the international financial system while implementing the reforms agreed upon to date to attend to these challenges and to make progress towards sustaining global demand,

*Expressing deep concern* that global growth has remained strongly dependent on unprecedented increases in global debt stocks in the years since the global financial crisis, and, in conjunction with the fast integration of developing countries into international financial markets, including for purposes of debt refinancing, exposes a growing number of developing economies to highly sensitive and amplified reactions to even mildly adverse economic developments, or the perception of such, in financial markets,

*Underlining* that, globally, the gross domestic product growth rate could increase significantly if every country achieved gender equality, and recognizing that the economic and social losses owing to a lack of progress in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are significant,

*Recognizing* the important role, on a case-by-case basis, of debt relief, including debt cancellation, as appropriate, and debt restructuring as debt crisis prevention, management and resolution tools,

*Recalling* the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>38</sup> reiterating that severe natural disasters and social or economic shocks can undermine a country's debt sustainability, and noting that public creditors have taken steps to ease debt repayment obligations through debt rescheduling and debt cancellation following an earthquake or a tsunami and in the context of the Ebola crisis in West Africa, and encouraging consideration of further debt relief steps, where appropriate, and/or other measures for countries affected in this regard, as feasible,

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<sup>35</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>36</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>37</sup> Resolution 63/303, annex.

<sup>38</sup> Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

*Expressing deep concern* that a number of countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as some middle-income countries, face challenges in servicing their debt and that, in spite of international efforts, a growing number of developing countries continue to struggle with high debt burdens and are classified, in accordance with the debt sustainability assessments, as being in debt distress or at high risk of debt distress,

*Taking note* of the operational guidelines for sustainable financing promoted by the Group of 20, while urging the Group to continue to engage in an inclusive and transparent manner with other States Members of the United Nations in its work, in order to ensure that the initiatives of the Group complement or strengthen the United Nations system, and noting the progress achieved in the implementation of the operational guidelines,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>39</sup>
2. *Emphasizes* the special importance of timely, effective, comprehensive and durable solutions to the debt problems of developing countries to promote their economic growth and development;
3. *Recognizes* the importance, in particular, of new and emerging challenges and vulnerabilities in regard to developing country external debt sustainability arising from structural changes to overall debt composition, the rapid growth of private sector debt in many emerging and developing countries and the growing use of new debt financing instruments and approaches;
4. *Notes* the growing concerns about fast-rising corporate debt, high-risk exposure to volatile international financial markets and fast-growing debt servicing burdens as potential triggers of financial and debt crises and the consequent need for coordinated policy responses;
5. *Stresses* the dual responsibility of creditors and debtor countries to avoid a build-up of unsustainable debt so as to reduce the risk of relapsing into another debt crisis, taking into account the challenges posed by the global economic environment and risks for debt sustainability in some developed and developing countries, and the need to continue to assist developing countries in this regard;
6. *Acknowledges* the role played by the Debt Sustainability Framework for Low-Income Countries, jointly developed by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, to guide borrowing and lending decisions, and welcomes the approval in 2017 of the comprehensive reform of the Framework, which aims to improve its assessment of a country's debt carrying capacity by incorporating additional country-specific information and methodological advances to increase the accuracy in the prediction of debt distress;
7. *Reiterates* that no single indicator should be used to make definitive judgments about a country's debt sustainability, and, in view of the new challenges and vulnerabilities for developing countries' external debt sustainability, substantiated by the work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and recent joint analyses of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, stresses the need for improved data collection and quality in areas that include domestic public debt and domestic and external private debt, as well as legal and regulatory features, such as ownership, currency denomination and jurisdiction according to national priorities;
8. *Also reiterates* that timely and comprehensive data on the level and composition of debt are necessary for, inter alia, building early warning systems aimed at limiting the impact of debt crises, calls for debtor and creditor countries to intensify their efforts to collect and release data, where appropriate, welcomes the ongoing work of relevant institutions to apply innovative tools for monitoring financial stress in developing countries and to create a central data registry that includes information on debt restructuring, and calls for donors to consider increasing their support for technical cooperation programmes aimed at increasing the statistical capacity of developing countries in that regard;
9. *Encourages* the United Nations system, including the World Bank Group, the International Monetary Fund and other relevant stakeholders, to continue to conduct analytical activities and to provide policy advice and technical assistance to Governments, upon request, in the areas of managing debt, and operating and maintaining databases, and in this regard recalls that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development should continue its analytical and policy work and technical assistance on debt issues, including the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System Programme, so that this extends not only to improvements in the timeliness and accuracy of debt data recording, but also to the enhanced coverage of public sector and other relevant debt data, including, in particular, heretofore unrecorded or hidden debt instruments, contingent liabilities and more complex debt instruments;

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<sup>39</sup> [A/73/180](#).

10. *Stresses* the need to strengthen information-sharing and transparency among all creditors and borrowers to make sure that debt sustainability assessments are based on comprehensive, objective and reliable data, including an assessment of national public and private debt, in order to ensure the achievement of sustainable development goals, encourages further improvement of the mutual exchange of information, on a voluntary basis, on borrowing and lending among all creditors and borrowers, and takes note of the Paris Forum initiative, which is aimed at gathering together sovereign creditors and debtors to share views and information, promoting greater debt transparency and preserving debt sustainability;

11. *Recognizes* that the long-term sustainability of debt depends on, inter alia, economic growth, the mobilization of domestic and international resources, the export prospects of debtor countries, sustainable debt management, sound macroeconomic policies that also support job creation, transparent and effective regulatory frameworks and success in overcoming structural development problems, and hence on the creation of an enabling environment at all levels that is conducive to development, and also recognizes the need to assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability;

12. *Notes with concern* that some low- and middle-income developing countries that were not part of the existing debt relief initiatives now have large debt burdens that may create constraints on mobilizing the resources needed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, indicating a need to consider, as appropriate, stronger debt management initiatives for those countries, and stresses the importance of medium- and long-term debt sustainability to deal with bilateral and non-Paris Club debt;

13. *Underlines* the fact that heavily indebted poor countries eligible for debt relief will not be able to enjoy the full benefits unless all creditors, both public and private, contribute to debt workouts, as appropriate, in order to ensure the debt sustainability of those countries, and invites creditors, both private and public, that are not yet fully participating in debt relief initiatives to substantially increase their participation, including by providing comparable treatment, to the extent possible, to debtor countries that have concluded sustainable debt relief agreements with creditors;

14. *Stresses* the need for the international community to remain vigilant in monitoring the debt situation of developing countries, including the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, and to continue to take effective measures, preferably within existing frameworks, when applicable, to address the debt problem of those countries, acknowledges that sound debt management initiatives can play a key role in liberating resources that should be directed towards activities consistent with the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and with the promotion of sustained economic growth and development and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard urges countries to direct the resources freed through debt relief, in particular through debt cancellation and reduction, towards achieving those objectives, including in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, according to their national priorities and strategies;

15. *Notes* that countries can seek to negotiate, as a last resort, on a case-by-case basis and through existing frameworks, agreements on temporary debt standstills between debtors and creditors in order to help to mitigate the adverse impacts of a debt crisis and stabilize macroeconomic developments;

16. *Acknowledges* the efforts of, and invites creditors to provide additional flexibility to, developing countries affected by natural disasters so as to allow them to address their national debt concerns, while taking into account their specific economic and social situations and needs;

17. *Recognizes* that the detrimental impact of disasters on the debt sustainability of many least developed countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries warrants further attention and that preserving external debt sustainability requires ex ante financing to enable the systematic reduction of disaster risk and resilience-building, as well as the disclosure of disaster risk to avoid exacerbating debt distress, when feasible, and in this regard recognizes that many least developed countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries have limited access to financing to invest in disaster risk reduction for resilience before and after disasters;

18. *Also recognizes* the importance of the creation of robust, nationally appropriate legal and regulatory frameworks for sustainable national and municipal borrowing, on the basis of sustainable debt management, supported by adequate revenues and capacities, by means of local creditworthiness, as well as expanded sustainable municipal debt markets, when appropriate, and in this regard underlines the importance of the establishment of appropriate financial intermediaries for urban financing, such as regional, national, subnational and local development funds or development banks, including pooled financing mechanisms, which can catalyse public and private, national and international financing;

19. *Underlines* the importance of multilateral efforts to tackle increasingly complex cross-border challenges that have serious effects on development and debt sustainability;

20. *Recognizes* the role of the United Nations and of the international financial institutions, in accordance with their respective mandates, and encourages them to continue to support global efforts towards sustained and inclusive growth, sustainable development and the external debt sustainability of developing countries, including through continued monitoring of global financial flows and their implications in this regard;

21. *Reiterates* that debtors and creditors must work together in a transparent manner to prevent and resolve unsustainable debt situations and that maintaining sustainable debt levels is the responsibility of the borrowing countries, acknowledges that lenders also have a responsibility to lend in a way that does not undermine a country's debt sustainability, and in this regard takes note of the principles on responsible sovereign lending and borrowing of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, recognizes the applicable requirements of the debt limits policy of the International Monetary Fund and/or the non-concessional borrowing policy of the World Bank and the safeguards of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in its statistical system to enhance the debt sustainability of recipient countries, and resolves to work towards a global consensus on guidelines for debtor and creditor responsibilities in borrowing by and lending to sovereigns, building on existing initiatives;

22. *Calls for* the intensification of efforts to prevent and mitigate the prevalence and cost of debt crises by enhancing international financial mechanisms for crisis prevention and resolution, encourages the private sector to cooperate in this regard, and invites creditors and debtors to further explore, where appropriate and on a mutually agreed, transparent and case-by-case basis, the use of new and improved debt instruments such as debt swaps, including debt for equity in Sustainable Development Goal projects, as well as debt indexation instruments;

23. *Notes* the holding of the ninth Debt Management Facility Stakeholders' Forum in Brussels on 28 and 29 May 2018, and encourages the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to continue their analytical and policy work and technical assistance on debt issues and to promote policies for responsible, sustainable and transparent sovereign borrowing and lending, as appropriate;

24. *Expresses its concern* regarding the ability of non-cooperative minority bondholders to disrupt the will of the large majority of bondholders who accept a restructuring of a debt-crisis country's obligations, given the potential broader implications in other countries, notes legislative steps taken by certain countries to prevent these activities and encourage all Governments to take action, as appropriate, and, furthermore, takes note of discussions in the United Nations on debt issues;

25. *Encourages* Governments to be mindful of the ability of non-cooperative minority bondholders to block a restructuring of a debt-crisis country's obligations, and encourages debtors and creditors to work together to draft bond agreements accordingly;

26. *Welcomes* the reforms to *pari passu* and collective action clauses proposed by the International Capital Market Association and endorsed by the International Monetary Fund to reduce the vulnerability of sovereigns to holdout creditors, encourages countries to take further action to include those clauses in all their bond issuances, and welcomes the continued work of the International Monetary Fund to monitor the uptake of the clauses and explore options for resolving the issue with the outstanding stock of debt without such clauses;

27. *Recalls* that the United Nations, as a universal intergovernmental body, has provided a platform for both creditors and debtors to discuss ways to improve external debt sustainability, requests the annual Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up to organize a substantive expert debate among the major institutional stakeholders on how to improve debt sustainability and debt restructuring, and in this regard invites continued ongoing cooperation among the international financial institutions, including the Bretton Woods institutions, in particular the International Monetary Fund, relevant United Nations system entities, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and other relevant forums, in accordance with their respective mandates, pursuant to the relevant resolutions on this matter;

28. *Also recalls* the establishment of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, notes its meeting held in Geneva in November 2018, at which the issue of debt sustainability was an item for deliberation, and recalls the request that the work of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts be presented as a regular input to the forum on financing for development follow-up;

29. *Reiterates* the invitation to the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General to give appropriate consideration to the central role of maintaining and facilitating the financial and macroeconomic stability of developing countries, including debt sustainability, and of supporting an appropriately enabling domestic and international economic, financial and regulatory environment for the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in this regard invites all major institutional stakeholders, including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to support these efforts, in accordance with their respective mandates;

30. *Invites* donor countries, taking into account country-specific debt sustainability analyses, to continue their provision of concessional and grant-based financing to developing countries, which could contribute to debt sustainability in the medium to long term, and notes the provision by the International Monetary Fund of interest relief to eligible developing countries in the form of zero-interest loans;

31. *Invites* the international community to continue efforts to increase support, including financial and technical assistance, for institutional capacity-building in developing countries to enhance sustainable upstream and downstream debt management as an integral part of national development strategies, including by promoting transparent and accountable debt management systems and negotiation and renegotiation capacities and through supporting legal advice in relation to tackling external debt litigation and debt data reconciliation between creditors and debtors so that debt sustainability may be achieved and maintained;

32. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and invites the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, in cooperation with the regional commissions, regional development banks and other relevant multilateral financial institutions and stakeholders, to continue and intensify cooperation in respect of activities relating to capacity-building and to early warning monitoring systems in developing countries in the area of debt management and debt sustainability, with a view to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

33. *Calls upon* all Member States and the United Nations system to take appropriate measures and actions for the implementation of the commitments, agreements and decisions of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in particular those related to the question of the external debt sustainability of developing countries;

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-fourth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in his report an assessment of the potential impact of investment requirements to meet the Sustainable Development Goals on developing countries' external debt sustainability, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "External debt sustainability and development", unless otherwise agreed.

#### RESOLUTION 73/222

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/536/Add.4, para. 11)<sup>40</sup>

#### **73/222. Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*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

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<sup>40</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

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,

*Reaffirming further* the United Nations Convention against Corruption,<sup>41</sup> which is the most comprehensive and universal instrument on corruption, and recognizing the need to continue to promote its ratification or accession thereto and its full and effective implementation, including full support for the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention,

*Reaffirming* the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>42</sup>

*Recalling* its resolutions 65/169 of 20 December 2010, 71/213 of 21 December 2016 and 72/207 of 20 December 2017,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 71/208 of 19 December 2016 and 72/196 of 19 December 2017,

*Reiterating its deep concern* about the impact of illicit financial flows, in particular those caused by tax evasion, corruption and transnational organized crime, on the economic, social and political stability and development of societies, and especially on developing countries,

*Recognizing* the challenge posed by the increasing scope and complexity of illicit financial flows and the need for the recovery and return of stolen assets, which necessitates international cooperation,

*Reaffirming* the importance of chapter V of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and underlining that the recovery and return of stolen assets pursuant to that chapter is a fundamental principle of the Convention,

*Recognizing* the work carried out by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and in particular its Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery, to advance the full implementation of chapter V of the Convention,

*Taking note* of the technical resources produced by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank through the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative,

*Encouraging* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to make full use of the asset recovery tools set forth in chapter V of the Convention, including mechanisms for the enforcement of foreign restraining and confiscation orders, as a means of significantly reducing expenses that a State party may normally incur in pursuing asset recovery,

*Calling upon* all States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in particular requesting and requested States, to cooperate to recover the proceeds of crime, as defined in the Convention, and to demonstrate their strong commitment to ensuring the return or disposal of such proceeds, in accordance with article 57 of the Convention,

*Recognizing* that combating illicit financial flows involves an essential development challenge, and emphasizing that illicit financial flows reduce the availability of valuable resources for financing for development,

*Recognizing also* that global knowledge of the importance of combating illicit financial flows and enhancing the return of assets is rapidly increasing, as is the political will to recover illicitly acquired assets by both requesting and requested States, and noting that while many challenges remain unresolved, tackling them effectively requires a holistic approach that recognizes the different types of illicit financial flows and their impact on sustainable development,

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<sup>41</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

<sup>42</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.



#### IV. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Second Committee

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*Recognizing further* the important work undertaken by academia and civil society, including the International Centre for Asset Recovery and the U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre, in assisting Member States in understanding the challenges associated with the return of stolen assets under chapter V of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

*Noting with appreciation* the ongoing efforts by regional organizations and other relevant international forums to strengthen cooperation in preventing and combating illicit financial flows,

*Taking note* of the 2018 report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development,<sup>43</sup>

*Welcoming* the establishment of the Platform for Collaboration on Tax to intensify collaboration and coordination on tax issues between the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank Group and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, including on formalizing regular discussions among the four international organizations on the design and implementation of standards for international tax matters and on the strengthening of their ability to provide capacity-building support to developing countries,

*Taking note* of the report of the High-level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa and its relevant contributions in increasing knowledge of the sources of illicit financial flows, while reiterating its invitation to other regions to carry out similar exercises,

*Noting with appreciation* the decision of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union to declare 2018 as the African Anti-Corruption Year and the appointment of an Anti-Corruption Champion,

*Keeping in mind*, therefore, that there are different sources of illicit financial flows and that separate analysis of each source is more beneficial in designing policy responses to prevent illicit financial flows,

*Noting* efforts to promote the exchange of information and synergy between the open-ended intergovernmental expert meetings to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the Working Group on International Cooperation established by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,

*Noting also* recent international developments on the implementation of the Standard for Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information in Tax Matters under common reporting standards developed by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and now involving more than 100 countries, as well as the role of the 154 members of the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes, which enables cooperation on an equal footing,

1. *Welcomes* the inclusion in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>44</sup> of, inter alia, the target related to combating illicit financial flows, recalls that the Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and in this regard looks forward to their achievement;

2. *Notes* the inclusion in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development<sup>45</sup> of actions intended to combat illicit financial flows, and, in this regard, looks forward to their implementation;

3. *Reaffirms its commitment* to work to strengthen regulatory frameworks at all levels in accordance with international standards and to further increase transparency and accountability of financial institutions and the corporate sector, as well as public administrations;

4. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of Member States to enhance knowledge and broaden understanding of the challenges and opportunities involved in international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption<sup>41</sup> so as to foster sustainable development;

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<sup>43</sup> *Financing for Development: Progress and Prospects 2018* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.18.1.5).

<sup>44</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>45</sup> Resolution 69/313, annex.

#### IV. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Second Committee

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5. *Notes* that developing countries are particularly susceptible to the negative impact of illicit financial flows;
6. *Acknowledges* that combating illicit financial flows requires a range of actions that includes deterring, detecting, preventing and countering such flows;
7. *Notes* that new technologies have opened the door for a growing number of people in developing countries to access digital financial services and can both increase efficiency in revenue collection and strengthen the fight against illicit financial flows;
8. *Expresses its concern* that virtual assets are increasingly being used for illicit activities, and in this regard encourages Member States and other relevant organizations to consider taking measures to prevent and counter their illicit use;
9. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,<sup>46</sup> and also urges States parties to those Conventions and Protocols to make efforts towards their effective implementation;
10. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;
11. *Encourages* further efforts by relevant national and international actors to mitigate transfer pricing not in line with the arm's length principle and trade misinvoicing and to avoid base erosion and profit shifting, bearing in mind the need for developing countries to strengthen their domestic resource mobilization in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;
12. *Encourages* countries and relevant multilateral and international organizations to continue their efforts to provide, upon request, technical assistance and capacity-building assistance to developing countries in order to improve their capacity to prevent, detect and combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development;
13. *Encourages* greater international cooperation to support African and other regional initiatives to combat illicit financial flows;
14. *Calls upon* all countries to cooperate, in accordance with applicable bilateral or multilateral agreements, in the areas of mutual legal assistance and administrative assistance in tax matters, as well as the automatic exchange of financial account information;
15. *Recognizes* the importance of enhanced capacity for data collection and analysis to combat illicit financial flows, emphasizing the need to increase the exchange of data within national Government institutions as well as from international institutions;
16. *Emphasizes* the importance of the ongoing efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other institutions, to develop a methodology to produce estimates of the total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows;
17. *Reiterates its call* to the President of the General Assembly to convene, during the seventy-third session of the Assembly, within existing resources and in coordination with all relevant stakeholders, a high-level meeting on international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development;
18. *Notes* that international cooperation in combating illicit financial flows is a work in progress that must continue to be pursued, and encourages all countries to develop effective tools and create a policy environment for combating illicit financial flows, in accordance with the existing relevant international frameworks, including the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

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<sup>46</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

19. *Notes with concern* that proceeds emanating from offences established under the United Nations Convention against Corruption have yet to be disposed of in favour of the legitimate owners and victims of the crimes, and pledges to deter, detect, prevent and counter corruption, increase transparency and promote good governance;

20. *Takes note with appreciation* of the first meeting of the Global Forum on Asset Recovery, which took place in December 2017, supported by the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative, a joint initiative of the World Bank and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and welcomes the adoption of the Global Forum on Asset Recovery communiqué;

21. *Stresses* that anti-corruption measures should be an integral part of national development policies and strategies;

22. *Looks forward* to the inclusion, in the 2019 report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, of an analysis of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development, pursuant to the mandate of the Task Force, and also looks forward to the deliberations of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session under the item entitled “Macroeconomic policy questions”, a sub-item entitled “Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development”, unless otherwise agreed.

### RESOLUTION 73/223

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/537, para. 12)<sup>47</sup>

#### **73/223. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 70/192 of 22 December 2015, 71/217 of 21 December 2016 and 72/208 of 20 December 2017 on the follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development and its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

*Reaffirming* 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,<sup>48</sup> 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,

*Recalling* the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008, and the third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Addis Ababa from 13 to 16 July 2015,

*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

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<sup>47</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

<sup>48</sup> Resolution 70/1.

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,

*Reiterating* the affirmation in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda that achieving gender equality, empowering all women and girls and attaining the full realization of their human rights are essential to achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development,

*Reaffirming* the importance of addressing the diverse needs of and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, as well as the specific challenges faced by middle-income countries,

*Welcoming* the convening of the third annual Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up from 23 to 26 April 2018,

*Recalling* the intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of the forum,<sup>49</sup> which decided that the fourth Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up would convene from 15 to 18 April 2019 and would include the special high-level meeting of the Council with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and also that the 2019 forum would consider and report in its outcome document on the need to hold a follow-up conference,

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council decision 2017/206 of 5 October 2016,

*Noting* the sixth biennial high-level meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum, held in New York on 21 and 22 May 2018, and its outcomes,<sup>50</sup>

*Noting also* the high-level meeting of the Secretary-General on financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, held in New York on 24 September 2018, and the presentation of the strategy of the Secretary-General for financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2018–2021), and looking forward to regular updates by the Secretary-General on the implementation of the strategy,

*Looking forward* to the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, to be held in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019,

*Looking forward also* to the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, which will be held back-to-back with the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the General Assembly,

1. *Emphasizes* the need to work towards the full and timely implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;<sup>51</sup>

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development,<sup>52</sup> and notes that progress, though uneven, has been reported in all seven action areas of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, while acknowledging that many implementation gaps persist;

3. *Welcomes* the intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of the 2018 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up,<sup>49</sup> urges their full, effective and timely implementation, and looks forward to staying engaged so as to assess progress, identify obstacles and challenges in the implementation of the financing for development outcomes and in the delivery of the means of implementation, promote the sharing of lessons learned from experiences at the national and regional levels, address new and emerging topics of relevance to the implementation of this agenda as the need arises and provide policy recommendations for action by the international community in substantive intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations at the 2019 forum;

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<sup>49</sup> See [E/FFDF/2018/3](#).

<sup>50</sup> See [E/2018/73](#).

<sup>51</sup> Resolution [69/313](#), annex.

<sup>52</sup> *Financing for Development: Progress and Prospects 2018* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.18.I.5).

#### IV. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Second Committee

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4. *Looks forward* to the summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the 2019 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up;
5. *Invites* the President of the Economic and Social Council to begin early planning of the 2019 forum on financing for development follow-up;
6. *Recalls* that decisions relating to the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up are to be contained within the forum's intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations;
7. *Takes note* of the work of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters and the initial contributions made by India to the voluntary trust fund and the contribution by the European Union and other countries in support of the Committee's subsidiary bodies, and urges Member States to come forward to contribute more to the trust fund in order to support the participation of developing countries;
8. *Welcomes* the holding of the 2018 Global Infrastructure Forum in Bali, Indonesia, on 13 October 2018, and reiterates that the Forum is mandated to identify and address infrastructure and capacity gaps in developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and African countries;
9. *Also welcomes* the progress made in operationalizing the three components of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and the holding of the annual multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, which is important, inter alia, in helping to facilitate the development, transfer and dissemination of relevant technologies for the Goals, looks forward to the establishment of the online platform as part of the Mechanism, and welcomes the progress made in operationalizing the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries;
10. *Notes with appreciation* the convening of the third annual multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals in New York on 5 and 6 June 2018, whose Co-Chairs' summary<sup>53</sup> served as an input to the high-level political forum on sustainable development and highlighted, inter alia, the promotion of networking and matchmaking among relevant stakeholders, especially innovators, funders and other supporters, to bridge the technology gap for the Sustainable Development Goals;
11. *Recalls* that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda provides a global framework for financing sustainable development and is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize the means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, the implementation of which requires following up on, that relate to its seven action areas, namely domestic public resources; domestic and international private business and finance; international development cooperation; international trade as an engine for development; debt and debt sustainability; addressing systemic issues and science, technology, innovation and capacity-building; and data, monitoring and follow-up;
12. *Notes* the establishment of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, whose agreed policy recommendations serve as an input to the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up in accordance with the terms of reference of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts;
13. *Welcomes* the appointment by the President of the General Assembly of co-facilitators to consult with Member States on the substantive work, including the possible outcome, of the 2019 High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development of the General Assembly, and invites the President to keep Member States updated on the developments in the process;
14. *Takes note* of the joint meeting of the Second Committee and the Economic and Social Council, held on 14 September 2018, regarding the issues to be addressed in the thematic chapter of the 2019 and 2020 reports of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development;
15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a summary report synthesizing the findings of the first four reports of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development and the results as well as the agreed conclusions and recommendations of the four Economic and Social Council

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<sup>53</sup> See [E/HLPF/2018/6](#).

forums on financing for development follow-up as an input to the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development of the General Assembly in 2019 and the discussions of the Second Committee during the seventy-fourth session;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development”, unless otherwise agreed.

#### RESOLUTION 73/224

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/538, para. 20),<sup>54</sup> by a recorded vote of 166 to 7, with 7 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Guatemala, Honduras, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Vanuatu

#### 73/224. Oil slick on Lebanese shores

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 61/194 of 20 December 2006, 62/188 of 19 December 2007, 63/211 of 19 December 2008, 64/195 of 21 December 2009, 65/147 of 20 December 2010, 66/192 of 22 December 2011, 67/201 of 21 December 2012, 68/206 of 20 December 2013, 69/212 of 19 December 2014, 70/194 of 22 December 2015, 71/218 of 21 December 2016 and 72/209 of 20 December 2017 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores,

*Reaffirming* the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7 of the Declaration of the Conference,<sup>55</sup> in which States were requested to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

*Emphasizing* the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

*Taking into account* the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,<sup>56</sup> especially principle 16, in which it was stipulated that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking into account also chapter 17 of Agenda 21,<sup>57</sup>

*Noting with great concern* the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Jiyah electric power plant in Lebanon, resulting in an

<sup>54</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

<sup>55</sup> See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5–16 June 1972 (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1)*, part one, chap. I.

<sup>56</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>57</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.



oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline, extended to the Syrian coastline and hindered efforts to achieve sustainable development, as already highlighted by the General Assembly in its resolutions [61/194](#), [62/188](#), [63/211](#), [64/195](#), [65/147](#), [66/192](#), [67/201](#), [68/206](#), [69/212](#), [70/194](#), [71/218](#) and [72/209](#),

*Noting* that the Secretary-General expressed grave concern at the lack of any acknowledgement on the part of the Government of Israel of its responsibilities vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill,

*Recalling* that, in paragraph 5 of its resolution [72/209](#), it reiterated its request to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, and recognizing the conclusion of the Secretary-General that this request of the General Assembly has yet to be implemented,

*Acknowledging* that the Secretary-General concluded that this oil spill is not covered by any of the international oil spill compensation funds and thus merits special consideration, and recognizing that further consideration needs to be given to the option of securing the relevant compensation from the Government of Israel,

*Acknowledging also* the conclusions on measuring and quantifying the environmental damage set out in the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>58</sup>

*Noting again with appreciation* the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the clean-up operations and the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Athens Coordination Meeting on the response to the marine pollution incident in the Eastern Mediterranean, held on 17 August 2006, as well as the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

*Acknowledging* that the Secretary-General has welcomed the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean oil spill restoration trust fund, under its existing mechanism, and expressing concern that to date no contributions have been made to the trust fund,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>58</sup>
2. *Reiterates*, for the thirteenth consecutive year, its deep concern about the adverse implications of the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese Jiyah electric power plant for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;
3. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and partially polluted Syrian shores and consequently has had serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon, owing to the adverse implications for natural resources, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, and for human health in the country;
4. *Acknowledges* the conclusions in the report of the Secretary-General, in which he stated that studies show that the value of the damage to Lebanon amounted to 856.4 million United States dollars in 2014, and requests the Secretary-General to urge United Nations bodies and agencies and other relevant organizations involved in the initial assessment of the relevant environmental damage to undertake, within existing resources, a further study, building on, inter alia, the initial work of the World Bank presented in the report of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session,<sup>59</sup> with a view to measuring and quantifying the environmental damage sustained by neighbouring countries;
5. *Reiterates its request* in this regard to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon for the aforementioned damage and to other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment, in particular in the light of the conclusion contained in the report of the Secretary-General that there remains grave concern at the lack of implementation of the relevant provisions of the resolutions of the General Assembly on the subject vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill;

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<sup>58</sup> [A/73/302](#).

<sup>59</sup> [A/62/343](#).

6. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the efforts of the Government of Lebanon and those of Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the initiation of clean-up and rehabilitation operations on the polluted shores, and encourages Member States and the above-mentioned entities to continue their financial and technical support to the Government of Lebanon towards achieving the completion of clean-up and rehabilitation operations, with the aim of preserving the ecosystem of Lebanon and that of the Eastern Mediterranean Basin;

7. *Welcomes* the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean oil spill restoration trust fund, based on voluntary contributions, to provide assistance and support to the States directly and adversely affected in their integrated environmentally sound management, from clean-up to safe disposal of oily waste, of this environmental disaster resulting from the destruction of the oil storage tanks at the Jiyah electric power plant;

8. *Notes* that in his report the Secretary-General urged Member States, international organizations, international and regional financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to intensify their support for Lebanon in this matter, particularly for recovery and rehabilitation activities on the Lebanese coast, reiterates its invitation to States and the international donor community to make voluntary financial contributions to the trust fund, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to mobilize international technical and financial assistance in order to ensure that the trust fund has sufficient and adequate resources;

9. *Recognizes* the multidimensionality of the adverse impact of the oil slick, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled “Sustainable development”.

#### RESOLUTION 73/225

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/538, para. 20),<sup>60</sup> by a recorded vote of 153 to 25, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen

*Abstaining:* Bangladesh, China, Nicaragua, South Africa, Turkey

<sup>60</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu and Zambia.

**73/225. Entrepreneurship for sustainable development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [67/202](#) of 21 December 2012, [69/210](#) of 19 December 2014 and [71/221](#) of 21 December 2016,

*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 [70/299](#) of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

*Reiterating* the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental and the wish to see the Sustainable Development Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

*Reaffirming* 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<sup>61</sup> and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>62</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Recalling* the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>63</sup> and reaffirming that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, among other things, seeks to develop and implement holistic disaster risk reduction management at all levels in line with the Sendai Framework,

*Recalling also* relevant strategies and programmes of action, including the Istanbul Declaration and Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,<sup>64</sup> the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,<sup>65</sup> the Vienna Declaration and Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,<sup>66</sup> taking note of Agenda 2063 of the African Union, and recognizing the importance of addressing the diverse needs and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing middle-income countries,

*Reaffirming* the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,<sup>67</sup> the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development<sup>68</sup> and the outcome documents of their review conferences,

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<sup>61</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>62</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>63</sup> Resolution [69/283](#), annexes I and II.

<sup>64</sup> *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011 (A/CONF.219/7)*, chaps. I and II.

<sup>65</sup> Resolution [69/15](#), annex.

<sup>66</sup> Resolution [69/137](#), annexes I and II.

<sup>67</sup> *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.

<sup>68</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

*Acknowledging* that entrepreneurship and innovation are essential for harnessing the economic potential of each nation and the importance of supporting mass entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, which create new momentum for economic growth and job creation and expand opportunities for all, including women and youth,

*Recalling* relevant agreed conclusions and resolutions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, including the agreed conclusions adopted at its sixty-first session, entitled “Women’s economic empowerment in the changing world of work”,<sup>69</sup> and the agreed conclusions adopted at its sixty-second session, entitled “Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls”,<sup>70</sup> stressing that women and girls, particularly in developing countries, are important drivers of entrepreneurship and sustainable development, calling for measures to enable women to leverage science and technology for entrepreneurship and economic empowerment, and recognizing the importance of policies and programmes that eliminate discrimination against women and provide public infrastructure to ensure equal access for women and men entrepreneurs,

*Recognizing* that multi-stakeholder partnerships and the resources, knowledge and ingenuity of the private sector, civil society, the scientific community, academia, philanthropy and foundations, parliaments, local authorities, volunteers and other stakeholders will be important in order to mobilize and access knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, complement the efforts of Governments and contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits, as well as support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries, including developing countries,

*Underlining* the need to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for achieving sustainable development and to build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and reaffirming that good governance, the rule of law, human rights, fundamental freedoms, equal access to fair justice systems and measures to combat corruption and curb illicit financial flows will be integral to those efforts,

*Emphasizing* the pivotal role of entrepreneurship in achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions, and emphasizing that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals requires the talents, creativity and entrepreneurial vigour of the entire population,

*Welcoming* the United Nations Youth Strategy, launched by the Secretary-General,

*Recognizing* that entrepreneurship drives economic growth by creating jobs, promoting decent work and sustainable agriculture, and fostering innovation,

*Recognizing also* that entrepreneurship can help to address environmental challenges through the introduction of new climate change mitigation and adaptation technologies and resilience measures, as well as by promoting environmentally sustainable practices and consumption patterns,

*Recognizing further* the positive contribution entrepreneurship can make in promoting social cohesion, reducing inequalities and expanding opportunities for all, including women, young people, persons with disabilities and the most vulnerable people, and reaching the furthest behind first,

*Noting* the role entrepreneurship can play in supporting participation in the labour market for persons with disabilities, and that promoting the feasibility of entrepreneurship for persons with disabilities will increase awareness of entrepreneurship as a potential labour market activity, not only for persons with disabilities, but also for self-employment and micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and noting also that persons with disabilities, including women with disabilities, face disproportionate and intersecting forms of discrimination, including in access to financial resources,

*Recalling* its resolution [71/279](#) of 6 April 2017 on Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day,

*Recognizing* the importance of encouraging the formalization, participation and growth of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in international, regional and national markets, including through access for all to capacity-building and financial services, such as affordable microfinance and credit,

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<sup>69</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 7 (E/2017/27)*, chap. I, sect. A.

<sup>70</sup> *Ibid.*, 2018, *Supplement No. 7 (E/2018/27)*, chap. I, sect. A.

*Remaining deeply concerned* by continued high rates of youth unemployment, particularly in developing countries, which stifle the transformative potential of young people in sustainable development,

*Reaffirming* its commitment to substantially increase the number of young people and all adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship, and acknowledging the importance of strengthening education systems, including vocational training, in order to develop relevant skills and competences,

*Acknowledging* that social entrepreneurship plays an important role in achieving the sustainable development challenges by applying innovative market-based solutions to social and environmental problems, while being financially sustainable, and providing job and income opportunities for disadvantaged groups,

*Acknowledging also* the importance of promoting development-oriented policies that support productive activities, job creation and entrepreneurship, including social entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services and the improvement of financial literacy, and in this regard recognizing the role of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization that could contribute to job creation for all,

*Recognizing* that businesses will play a central role in the transition towards sustainable development and a more resource-efficient economy, including concepts such as the circular economy, by adapting their business models and value chains,

*Noting with concern* that societal attitudes and negative preconceptions, in particular towards women, including the fear of failure, the lack of opportunity and insufficient support structures, can undermine efforts to create a culture of entrepreneurship,

*Recognizing* the importance of quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data for monitoring progress in the implementation of entrepreneurship policies and their direct and indirect contribution to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, and addressing sex-disaggregated data gaps, to ensure that no one is left behind,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>71</sup>

2. *Reiterates* the need to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and in that regard emphasizes the importance of improved regulatory environments and policy initiatives that promote entrepreneurship, including social entrepreneurship, and foster micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and stresses the positive role that entrepreneurship plays in driving job creation, reducing inequalities and expanding opportunities for all, including for women and youth;

3. *Also reiterates* that the persistently low wages earned by women workers impact their economic empowerment, giving rise to the need to build their economic resilience by helping them access and mobilize adequate financial resources and technologies and to undertake capacity-building to promote women's entrepreneurship and economic empowerment, and, in addition, to empower women through entrepreneurship by increasing their employment and market opportunities through targeted education and training and greater legal protections in the workplace;

4. *Encourages* Governments to take a coordinated and inclusive approach to promoting entrepreneurship involving all stakeholders, while noting initiatives of civil society, academia and the private sector as important entrepreneurship drivers, and to develop policies, taking into account national priorities and circumstances, that address the legal, social and regulatory barriers to equal, effective economic participation, and stresses the need for a comprehensive and holistic approach to entrepreneurship that includes long-term and cross-sectoral strategies;

5. *Acknowledges* that promoting entrepreneurship can stimulate new production processes and technology development, including the building of endogenous capacities for enabling climate change mitigation and adaptation and enhancing energy efficiency, and recognizes that such a policy, which could draw on the initiatives presented in the Global Climate Action Agenda, can help Governments to meet their targets for the Paris Agreement on climate change;<sup>61</sup>

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<sup>71</sup> [A/73/258](#).



6. *Also acknowledges* that the private sector contributes to the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and that partnerships with the private sector play an important role in promoting entrepreneurship, generating employment and investment, increasing revenue potential, developing new technologies and innovative business models and enabling high, sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth while protecting workers' rights;

7. *Further acknowledges* the need for Member States to develop policies and, where appropriate, strengthen national and international policy regulatory frameworks and their coherence, harnessing the potential of science, technology and innovation, closing technology gaps and scaling up capacity-building at all levels to better align private sector incentives with public goals, including incentivizing the private sector to adopt sustainable practices, and foster long-term quality investment, taking into account the importance of responsible business practices and corporate social responsibility, as reflected in the 10 principles of the United Nations Global Compact and in the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework,<sup>72</sup> environmental, social and governance performance standards and greater transparency in supply chains to end forced and child labour;

8. *Recognizes* the vital role of entrepreneurship in the development of regional economic integration, which can be an important catalyst for implementing economic reforms, reducing trade barriers and decreasing trade costs;

9. *Invites* Member States to strengthen the capacity of national financial institutions to reach out to those who have no access to banking, insurance and other financial services, particularly women and women-led micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, green and inclusive businesses, and digital entrepreneurs, in urban and especially in rural areas, including through the use of innovative tools, including mobile banking, payment platforms and digitalized payments, and encourages them to adopt regulatory and supervisory frameworks that facilitate the safe and sound provision of financial services, increase access to information to protect consumers and promote financial literacy, particularly for women, young people and the most vulnerable people;

10. *Also invites* Member States to support the digital entrepreneurship of women, including in e-commerce, including for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, to develop local solutions and relevant content and promote innovation and decent job creation;

11. *Encourages* Member States to expand alternative sources of financing, including blended finance as well as impact investing, cooperatives and venture philanthropy, venture capital and angel investors for start-ups, and diversify the retail financial service system to include non-traditional providers of financial services, such as microcredit and microfinance, stresses the value of a sound regulatory framework in this regard, and also encourages the provision of incentives to microfinance institutions that meet national standards for delivering sound financial services to the poor, with a particular emphasis on women;

12. *Emphasizes* the important role of national efforts aimed at bringing all workers from the informal to the formal economy and integrating them into national social security systems, as appropriate, including by simplifying administrative processes, such as enabling business registration through single-window and e-registration procedures, notes that recommendation No. 204 of the International Labour Organization can provide useful guidance on the transition from the informal to the formal economy, and recognizes that women face unique barriers to entering the formal workforce;

13. *Invites* Member States to strengthen the capacity of women to transition from the informal economy to formal employment and outline measures to reduce and redistribute women's and girls' disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work and promote decent paid care and domestic work for women and men in the public and private sectors by providing social protection, safe working conditions and equal pay for equal work or work of equal value, thereby facilitating the transition of informal workers, including those engaged in informal paid care and domestic work, into the formal economy;

14. *Recognizes* that technological improvement, particularly through the diffusion of technology, can provide new opportunities for businesses to improve their competitiveness and increase their productive capacities, and in this regard encourages Member States to increase cooperation in support of technology exchange and transfer on mutually agreed terms, innovation, capacity-building programmes and the sharing of best practices for promoting entrepreneurship;

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<sup>72</sup> [A/HRC/17/31](#), annex.



15. *Highlights* the importance of supporting technologies that can have a high social return, correspond to local needs and contribute to technological upgrading and social development;

16. *Recognizes* that entrepreneurs can address sustainable development challenges by developing effective and simple solutions in the areas of utility services, education, health care, hunger eradication and the environment, and that social entrepreneurship, including cooperatives and social enterprises, can help to alleviate poverty and catalyse social transformation by strengthening the productive capacities of vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, and producing goods and services that are accessible to them;

17. *Acknowledges* the value of entrepreneurship education and the dissemination of entrepreneurial thinking across all sectors, encourages all relevant actors to increase efforts to systemically integrate entrepreneurship within the formal and informal education systems, including through, inter alia, skills development, career guidance to support entrepreneurship, behavioural approach programmes such as the Empretec programme of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Start and Improve Your Business programme of the International Labour Organization, capacity-building, professional training programmes, business incubators and national centres of excellence, as well as online platforms and e-mentorships, and also encourages cooperation and networking and the sharing of best practices while fostering innovation and using innovative teaching methods in line with the demands of the competitive markets and ensuring the full participation of women and girls;

18. *Encourages* all stakeholders, in particular women and young entrepreneurs, to apply their creativity and innovation to solving sustainable development challenges, and emphasizes that local innovation and entrepreneurship systems need to be able to fully participate in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>73</sup> including the Sustainable Development Goals, and that concerted efforts are needed to ensure the participation of all;

19. *Reiterates* the need for the promotion and advancement of women in labour markets, including through policies and programmes aimed at the elimination of structural barriers and stereotypes that women of all ages face in the transition from school to work, and the need to address challenges faced by women returning from care-related career breaks and by older women, by providing access to technical and vocational skills training, as well as access to science, technology, engineering and mathematics training, entrepreneurship development and job-matching, and addressing the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and barriers they face, including violence, and the unequal distribution of unpaid care and work, and promoting their participation in relevant decision-making processes;

20. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders to further develop financial literacy and financial education programmes that include an emphasis on the impact of finance on sustainable development, as appropriate, in order to ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to access financial services, in particular women and girls, farmers and those working in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises;

21. *Encourages and facilitates* women's entrepreneurship, including by improving access to financing and investment opportunities, tools of trade, business development and training, in order to increase trade and procurement, including public procurement from women's enterprises, including micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, cooperatives and self-help groups in both the public and private sectors;

22. *Strengthens* science and technology education policies and curricula to promote girls in science, technology, engineering and mathematics so that they are relevant to the needs of and benefit women and girls, and encourages investment and research in sustainable technology that meets the needs of women, particularly in developing countries, in order to strengthen their capacities, so as to enable women to leverage science and technology for entrepreneurship and economic empowerment in the changing world of work;

23. *Highlights* the importance of developing and implementing policies and programmes to support women's entrepreneurship, in particular opportunities for new women entrepreneurs and those that lead to business expansion for existing women-owned micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and encourages Governments to increase investments in women-owned companies and businesses, to reduce administrative barriers in the regulatory environment, removing restrictions that deter women from engaging in business activities, and to create a climate that is conducive to increasing the number of women entrepreneurs and the size of their businesses by providing them with training and advisory services in business, access to finance, administration and information and communications

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<sup>73</sup> Resolution 70/1.

technology, facilitating networking and information-sharing and increasing their participation on advisory boards and in other forums so as to enable them to contribute to the formulation and review of policies and programmes being developed, in particular by financial institutions;

24. *Recognizes* that social entrepreneurs are agents of change who can create alternative sustainable models of production, finance and consumption to respond to social, economic and environmental issues, while generating value for their community and stakeholders, also recognizes the need to implement policies and programmes aimed at supporting social entrepreneurship, and encourages Governments to set up an environment conducive to social innovation;

25. *Also recognizes* that harnessing entrepreneurial talents among all young people is vital for increasing productive capacities, developing new forms of entrepreneurship focused on information and communications technology, big data, digitization, smart cities and creating start-ups, and generating full and productive employment and decent work and inclusive economic growth, and encourages Member States to integrate youth entrepreneurship strategies and innovative programmes into their national policies, create a nurturing environment for the full realization of the rights and capabilities of all young people, and increase investment in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through impact investment favouring the poorest and most vulnerable, entrepreneurial education, youth capacity-building and information and communications technology;

26. *Encourages* Governments and all sectors of society to take sustainable measures to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for persons with disabilities, on an equal basis and without discrimination on the basis of gender and disability, including by promoting access to inclusive education systems, skills development and vocational and entrepreneurial training, in order to enable persons with disabilities to attain and maintain maximum independence, notes that further efforts are needed to increase awareness of the ability of persons with disabilities to innovate and contribute to the achievement of sustainable development through entrepreneurship, and in this regard calls upon all stakeholders to establish research on policy support for entrepreneurs with disabilities and collect data in order to develop or improve programmes, taking into account their capabilities, skills, socioeconomic status and other personal characteristics;

27. *Stresses* the need to highlight the value of entrepreneurship and its contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, by promoting policies, initiatives and programmes that support the development of an enabling entrepreneurial ecosystem, including by raising public awareness, reinforcing local support networks and employing specific measures aimed at removing negative preconceptions and negative cultural biases;

28. *Calls upon* all stakeholders to implement the present resolution as a means to deliver the comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, in which the dignity of the human person is fundamental, the Goals and targets are met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, no one is left behind and we endeavour to reach the furthest behind first;

29. *Stresses* the importance of indicators that can be used to formulate targeted entrepreneurship policies and measure their impact on the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard encourages Member States, in cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, to further identify and develop indicators at the national and regional levels as appropriate;

30. *Recognizes* that democratic political institutions, transparent and accountable public and private entities, effective anti-corruption measures and responsible corporate governance are key conditions for making market economies and enterprises more responsive to the values and long-term goals of society;

31. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to further recognize and integrate entrepreneurship in its various forms into their policies, programmes and reports, as appropriate, and invites the United Nations system, and in particular the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue to provide support to and assist Member States, at their request, to identify, formulate, implement and assess coherent policy measures on entrepreneurship and the promotion of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises;

32. *Decides* to give consideration, as appropriate, to the contribution of entrepreneurship to sustainable development in the follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include the item entitled “Sustainable development” in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 73/226

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/538/Add.1, para. 14)<sup>74</sup>

**73/226. Midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 71/222 of 21 December 2016, by which it proclaimed the period from 2018 to 2028 the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”,

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolutions 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries and 1989/84 of 24 May 1989 on guidelines for international decades in economic and social fields and General Assembly resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years,

*Reaffirming* the sustainable development goals and targets related to water resources, including those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>75</sup> and determined to achieve the goal of ensuring the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all and other related goals and targets,

*Emphasizing* that water is critical for sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger, that water, energy, food security and nutrition are linked and that water is indispensable for human development, health and well-being and a vital element of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and other relevant goals in the social, environmental and economic fields,

*Noting* that the world is not on track to achieve water-related Sustainable Development Goals and targets at the global level by 2030 at the current rate of progress,

*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,

<sup>74</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

<sup>75</sup> Resolution 70/1.

*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,

*Reaffirming further* that the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, has a central role in overseeing the follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the global level,

*Recognizing* synergies between the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>76</sup> and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>77</sup>

*Emphasizing* that the achievement of the water-related goals and targets would contribute to the successful implementation of the New Urban Agenda,<sup>78</sup> the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,<sup>79</sup> the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>80</sup> and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,<sup>81</sup>

*Recognizing* that the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction contributes to the achievement of the objectives of the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028, and acknowledging that disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change and are increasing in frequency and intensity, significantly impede progress towards sustainable development,

*Taking note* of the report of the High-level Panel on Water established by the Secretary-General and the President of the World Bank, entitled “Making Every Drop Count”, the *Sustainable Development Goal 6 Synthesis Report on Water and Sanitation*, issued in 2018, and the *United Nations World Water Development Report 2018*,

*Noting with concern* that climate change is one of the factors that can exacerbate the global water stress and the need for climate adaptation strategies to address water issues,

*Recognizing* that water-related issues, including the relevant Sustainable Development Goals and targets, need to be better reflected in the agendas of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

*Taking note* of the Final Declaration,<sup>82</sup> the Co-Chairs’ summary<sup>83</sup> and the Call for Action and Partnerships of the High-level International Conference on the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028, co-organized by the Government of Tajikistan and the United Nations, held in Dushanbe from 20 to 22 June 2018,

*Noting* the outcomes and the Ministerial Declaration of the eighth World Water Forum, held in Brasilia from 18 to 23 March 2018, and the outcomes of the United Nations special thematic sessions on water and disasters,

1. *Welcomes* the Secretary-General’s Plan: Water Action Decade 2018–2028, launched during the high-level event of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly, held at the initiative of the President of the General Assembly on 22 March 2018, World Water Day;

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<sup>76</sup> See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.

<sup>77</sup> Resolution [69/283](#), annex II.

<sup>78</sup> Resolution [71/256](#), annex.

<sup>79</sup> Resolution [69/15](#), annex.

<sup>80</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>81</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

<sup>82</sup> [A/73/166](#), annex I.

<sup>83</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

2. *Also welcomes* the activities related to water undertaken by Member States, the Secretariat and the organizations of the United Nations system, inter alia, through inter-agency work, as well as contributions from major groups, for the observance and implementation of the Decade;
3. *Reaffirms* its decision, in accordance with its resolution [71/222](#) on the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028, to review the implementation of the Decade at its seventy-seventh session;
4. *Decides* to convene, in New York, from 22 to 24 March 2023, coinciding with World Water Day, the United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028, which are a greater focus on the sustainable development and integrated management of water resources for the achievement of social, economic and environmental objectives, the implementation and promotion of related programmes and projects, as well as on the furtherance of cooperation and partnerships at all levels, in order to help to achieve the internationally agreed water-related goals and targets, including those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>84</sup> which will result in a summary of the proceedings of the conference, to be prepared by the President of the General Assembly, as its outcome document, that will feed into the high-level political forum on sustainable development;
5. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, through voluntary contributions, to convene in New York, in 2021, a one-day high-level meeting to promote the implementation of the water-related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, in support of the implementation of the Decade and the high-level political forum on sustainable development;
6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the support of UN-Water, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other entities of the United Nations system, to prepare a report for the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly, to assess progress in the implementation of the first half of the Decade, including the Secretary-General’s Plan: Water Action Decade 2018–2028, and, taking into account best practices and lessons learned, to identify obstacles and constraints encountered, actions and initiatives needed to overcome them during the second half of the Decade and activities planned by Member States, the Secretary-General and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, as appropriate, which will serve as an input to the high-level political forum on sustainable development;
7. *Decides* that the Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action shall be preceded by regional and global preparatory meetings, as appropriate, and informed by existing water-related meetings at the regional and global levels, and that all costs relating to the Conference and its preparation shall be financed through voluntary contributions, and in this connection requests the Secretary-General to coordinate the preparatory process and to invite all relevant organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and other relevant organizations, within their respective mandates, to provide support to the review process;
8. *Encourages* Member States, relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as other relevant partners, including the private sector, to continue to contribute to the review and implementation of the Decade, including through capacity-building, in order to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;
9. *Reiterates* the critical importance of effective review of the implementation of the Decade at the national, regional and international levels, as appropriate, and in this regard invites Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, financial institutions, private sector and other relevant stakeholders and donors to support the preparations for the Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action through voluntary contributions to a trust fund,<sup>84</sup> including for the purpose of assisting developing countries in participating fully and effectively in the review and implementation of the Decade;

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<sup>84</sup> The trust fund to support the work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development.

10. *Stresses* the importance of the participation and full involvement of all relevant stakeholders, including women, children, young people, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, in the implementation of the Decade at all levels;

11. *Decides* to finalize the arrangements for the comprehensive review during its seventy-fifth session, taking into account the process of follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda at the global level after the first cycle of the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

12. *Invites* the Secretary-General, with the support of UN-Water, to continue taking appropriate steps, within existing resources, to support and organize the activities of the Decade at the global, regional and country levels, taking into account the work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and other relevant United Nations structures, and to support those Member States which lack capacity, at their request, in the implementation of the Decade and the 2030 Agenda.

#### RESOLUTION 73/227

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/538/Add.1, para. 14),<sup>85</sup> by a recorded vote of 135 to 47, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* New Zealand, Norway, Turkey

#### **73/227. Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 and 57/270 A of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 64/236 of 24 December 2009, 65/152 of 20 December 2010, 66/197 of 22 December 2011, 66/288 of 27 July 2012, 67/203 of 21 December 2012, 68/210 of 20 December 2013, 68/309 of 10 September 2014, 68/310 of 15 September 2014, 69/108 of 8 December 2014, 69/214 of 19 December 2014, 70/201 of 22 December 2015, 71/223 of 21 December 2016, 72/216 of 20 December 2017 and all other relevant resolutions on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

<sup>85</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).



*Recalling also* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,<sup>86</sup> Agenda 21,<sup>87</sup> the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,<sup>88</sup> the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development<sup>89</sup> and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)<sup>90</sup> and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>91</sup> as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>92</sup> the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,<sup>93</sup> the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,<sup>94</sup> the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,<sup>95</sup> the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action<sup>96</sup> and the outcome document of the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,<sup>97</sup>

*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,

*Recalling* the Istanbul Declaration<sup>98</sup> and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,<sup>99</sup> adopted by the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011, and endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 65/280 of 17 June 2011, in which the Assembly called upon all the relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the Programme of Action,

*Recalling also* the Political Declaration adopted by 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,

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<sup>86</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>87</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>88</sup> Resolution S-19/2, annex.

<sup>89</sup> *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.

<sup>90</sup> *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

<sup>91</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>92</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>93</sup> Resolution 63/239, annex.

<sup>94</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>95</sup> Resolution S-21/2, annex.

<sup>96</sup> *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.

<sup>97</sup> Resolution 68/6.

<sup>98</sup> *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. I.

<sup>99</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II.

held in Antalya, Turkey, from 27 to 29 May 2016, and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/294 of 25 July 2016, in which the Assembly called upon all the relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the Declaration,

*Recalling further* the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024<sup>100</sup> and the Vienna Declaration,<sup>101</sup>

*Recalling* the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,<sup>102</sup>

*Reaffirming* the importance of supporting the implementation of Agenda 2063 of the African Union and the programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,<sup>103</sup>

*Reaffirming also* the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>104</sup> adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,

*Reaffirming further* 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,<sup>105</sup>

*Reaffirming* the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,<sup>106</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>107</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Emphasizing* the importance of oceans for sustainable development, as embodied in Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and various decisions taken by the former Commission on Sustainable Development, reaffirming in this regard the outcome of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development,<sup>108</sup> taking note of its seven partnership dialogues, and calling upon all stakeholders to urgently undertake, inter alia, the actions highlighted in the call for action adopted at the Conference and implement the respective voluntary commitments pledged by individual Member States and other stakeholders during the Conference,

*Recognizing* that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of United Nations conferences, the United Nations Millennium Declaration<sup>109</sup> and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Noting with concern*, at the threshold of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, that in 2013, 783 million people lived on less than \$1.90 a day, compared with 1.867 billion people in 1990; in 2016, in addition to being affected by income poverty, 815 million people suffered from hunger; and in 2017, 1.46 billion people in 104 countries were classified as poor, 689 million of whom were children under 18 years of age, according to the global Multidimensional Poverty Index,

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<sup>100</sup> Resolution 69/137, annex II.

<sup>101</sup> Ibid., annex I.

<sup>102</sup> Resolution 69/15, annex.

<sup>103</sup> A/57/304, annex.

<sup>104</sup> Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

<sup>105</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

<sup>106</sup> See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

<sup>107</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>108</sup> Resolution 71/312, annex.

<sup>109</sup> Resolution 55/2.

*Recognizing* that, since the holding of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the international community has shown uneven progress in the achievement of the internationally agreed goals and commitments necessary to achieve sustainable development, including eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions,

*Reaffirming* the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions, and reiterating that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities,

*Recognizing* that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable and promoting sustainable patterns of consumption and production and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are the overarching and essential objectives for sustainable development,

*Stressing* the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,<sup>110</sup>

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system,<sup>111</sup>

3. *Reaffirms* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>91</sup> and urges its full implementation;

4. *Affirms* the contributions, ongoing efforts and commitments towards the full implementation of Agenda 21,<sup>87</sup> the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,<sup>88</sup> the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,<sup>90</sup> including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, as well as the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and stresses the importance of their continued implementation in the pursuit of sustainable development;

5. *Reaffirms*, as set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>112</sup> all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,<sup>86</sup> including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, as set out in principle 7 thereof;

6. *Acknowledges* the importance of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the resulting processes for the elaboration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and for the realization of sustainable development;

7. *Recognizes* that the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development constituted a milestone that ushered in important international instruments and commitments that continue to guide progress in closing development gaps between developed and developing countries, including the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests (Forest Principles),<sup>113</sup> the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>114</sup> the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>107</sup> and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;<sup>115</sup>

8. *Also recognizes* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development builds upon elements from the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, inter alia, the establishment of

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<sup>110</sup> A/73/204.

<sup>111</sup> A/73/81-E/2018/59.

<sup>112</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>113</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex III.

<sup>114</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>115</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

the high-level political forum on sustainable development, the format and organizational arrangements of which were later established by its resolution 67/290 of 9 July 2013, a strengthened Economic and Social Council, as later defined in its resolution 68/1 of 20 September 2013, the process that led to the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, as later defined in its resolutions 68/309 and 70/1, the strengthening of the science-policy interface, including in the form of the *Global Sustainable Development Report*, and the process that led to the adoption of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism;

9. *Stresses* the need, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to benefit from and build on experiences, best practices, challenges and the lessons learned from the unfinished business of the previous agreements on sustainable development, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, as well as to contribute to identifying and addressing new and emerging challenges;

10. *Urges* States to continue to take concrete measures that contribute to the full and effective implementation of internationally agreed development goals and commitments in the economic, social and environmental fields since 1992, in order to support the full and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

11. *Invites* the high-level political forum on sustainable development to address and build on lessons learned from the unfinished business of the previous agreements on sustainable development, including the Millennium Development Goals;

12. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to support the effective implementation of their commitments under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, in accordance with their respective principles and provisions, and to take effective and concrete actions and measures at all levels and to enhance international cooperation;

13. *Stresses* the importance of overcoming silos and seeking innovative and coordinated approaches in integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social and environmental – at the global, regional and national levels, and requests the United Nations to further mainstream and integrate the three dimensions throughout the United Nations system;

14. *Takes note with appreciation* of the actions and initiatives implemented by United Nations system entities in order to mainstream the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout their work, and encourages the system to continue to exchange experiences and lessons learned in this regard and to step up its efforts to ensure effective support to States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

15. *Urges* the United Nations development system to continue to enhance its support for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,<sup>99</sup> 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,<sup>116</sup> the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,<sup>102</sup> the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,<sup>100</sup> Agenda 2063 of the African Union and the programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,<sup>103</sup> all of which are integral to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and calls upon the entities of the United Nations development system to integrate and mainstream them fully into their operational activities for development;

16. *Urges* the speedy and effective implementation and the effective follow-up and review of the sustainable development priorities for small island developing States identified in the Samoa Pathway and set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and reaffirms that small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities;

17. *Notes* that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, adopted, among other commitments on sustainable consumption and production, the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns<sup>117</sup> as a tool for action on sustainable consumption and production, and in this

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<sup>116</sup> Resolution 70/294, annex.

<sup>117</sup> A/CONF.216/5, annex.

regard, recognizes the commitment by the United Nations Environment Assembly to accelerate its implementation, including through relevant voluntary actions by Member States;

18. *Urges* the United Nations development system to intensify support for States in fully implementing 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;<sup>105</sup>

19. *Emphasizes* that regional and subregional organizations have a role to play in promoting sustainable development in their respective regions by, inter alia, promoting peer learning and cooperation, including South-South and triangular cooperation, as well as effective linkages among global, regional, subregional and national processes, as appropriate, to advance sustainable development;

20. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

21. *Reiterates* the call of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for the further mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system, and in this regard invites the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on progress made, including for the consideration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including an assessment of progress in the implementation of relevant instruments and commitments emanating from Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, building on lessons learned, success stories, partnerships and their contribution to promoting integration and coherence in advancing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, the sub-item entitled “Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development”.

#### RESOLUTION 73/228

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/538/Add.2, para. 13)<sup>118</sup>

#### **73/228. Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the Declaration of Barbados<sup>119</sup> and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (Barbados Programme of Action),<sup>120</sup> the Mauritius Declaration<sup>121</sup> and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island

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<sup>118</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

<sup>119</sup> *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 I.

<sup>120</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>121</sup> *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.



Developing States,<sup>122</sup> the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway (Samoa Pathway)<sup>123</sup> and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),<sup>124</sup> including chapter VII, on the sustainable development of small island developing States,

*Reaffirming also* 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”,<sup>125</sup>

*Reaffirming further* 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* 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, 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,

*Reaffirming also* its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, in which it urged the United Nations development system to enhance its support for the implementation of, inter alia, the Samoa Pathway and called upon the entities of the development system to integrate and mainstream it fully into their operational activities for development,

*Reaffirming further* its resolution 72/279 of 1 June 2018, and welcoming the efforts of the Secretary-General to better position the United Nations operational activities for development to support countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda,

*Recalling* its resolutions 72/217 of 20 December 2017 and 72/307 of 27 July 2018, and all relevant previous resolutions,<sup>126</sup>

*Recalling also* the outcome documents and decisions of all United Nations conferences and processes related to the sustainable development priorities of small island developing States, including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>127</sup> and recognizing that disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change and which are increasing in frequency and intensity, significantly impede progress towards sustainable development in small island developing States,

*Reaffirming* 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,<sup>128</sup>

*Welcoming* the meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development on the theme “Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies: SIDS perspective”, held in New York on 11 July 2018,

*Reaffirming* that small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development, in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities, and that they remain constrained in meeting their goals in all three

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<sup>122</sup> Ibid., annex II.

<sup>123</sup> Resolution 69/15, annex.

<sup>124</sup> *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 2, annex.

<sup>125</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>126</sup> See resolutions 70/202, 69/288, 69/217 and 69/15.

<sup>127</sup> Resolution 69/283, annex II.

<sup>128</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.



dimensions of sustainable development, and recognizing the ownership and leadership of small island developing States in overcoming some of these challenges, while stressing that, in the absence of international cooperation, achieving success will remain difficult,

*Recognizing* climate change as one of the drivers of disaster risk, and reaffirming the importance of strengthening international cooperation in the face of disasters,

*Acknowledging* that climate change and sea level rise continue to pose a significant risk to small island developing States and their efforts to achieve sustainable development and, for some, represent the gravest threat to their survival and viability,

*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement,<sup>129</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>130</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Highlighting* the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the scientific findings contained in the special report entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

*Looking forward* to the climate summit called for by the Secretary-General, to be held in New York in 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change,

*Taking note* of the important relationship between the ocean and climate change, including the Ocean Pathway initiative, launched on the margins of the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

*Reiterating* the call upon all stakeholders to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development by, inter alia, accelerating actions to prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris, plastics and microplastics, nutrient pollution, untreated wastewater, solid waste discharges, hazardous substances, pollution from ships and abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear, while at the same time recognizing that small island developing States are among the most vulnerable to the impacts of marine pollution,

*Reaffirming* that oceans and seas, along with coastal areas, form an essential component of the Earth's ecosystem and are intrinsically linked to sustainable development, and reaffirming also that healthy, productive and resilient oceans and coasts are critical for, inter alia, poverty eradication, access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food, livelihoods, economic development and essential ecosystem services, including carbon sequestration, and represent an important element of identity and culture for the people of small island developing States,

*Recognizing* the importance of water and sanitation for sustainable development, especially in atoll nations, to address the range of issues around sea level rise, salt water intrusion and changes in rainfall patterns, and in this regard acknowledging the launch by the General Assembly of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028,

*Recognizing also* that health is a precondition for, and an outcome and indicator of, all three dimensions of sustainable development and that the Samoa Pathway calls for policies and programmes to ensure better health, and recognizing also the need for the prevention, detection and treatment of communicable and non-communicable diseases and for quality essential health-care services while also reducing the health-related impacts resulting from natural and human-made disasters in small island developing States,

*Reaffirming* the importance of the Small Island Developing States Partnership Framework and the progress made, including through the Steering Committee on Partnerships for Small Island Developing States and the third annual global multi-stakeholder small island developing States partnership dialogue held at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 12 July 2018, as well as the importance and progress of the Small Island Developing States Global Business Network, and the need for its continued coherence with the Partnership Framework,

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<sup>129</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>130</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

*Recognizing* that it is crucial to mobilize resources from all sources for the effective implementation of the Samoa Pathway, including through multi-stakeholder partnerships,

*Recognizing also* that, in spite of the considerable efforts of small island developing States and the mobilization of their limited resources, their progress in the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in implementing the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy has been uneven, that some have regressed economically and that a number of significant challenges remain,

*Noting* the decline in correspondent banking relationships experienced by many small island developing States, and looking forward in this regard to the continuing consideration of this issue in forthcoming reports of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, as appropriate and in accordance with existing mandates,

*Recognizing* the long-standing cooperation and support provided by the international community, which has played an important role in helping small island developing States to make progress in addressing their vulnerabilities and in supporting their sustainable development efforts, and recalling paragraph 19 of the Samoa Pathway, which calls for strengthening this cooperation,

*Reaffirming* the need to mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects, and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to enable small island developing States to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;<sup>131</sup>

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled “Comprehensive review of United Nations system support for small island developing States: final findings”, prepared pursuant to resolution 69/288 of 8 June 2015;<sup>132</sup>

3. *Further takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Assessment resulting from the evolving mandates of the small island developing States units of the Secretariat”, submitted pursuant to resolution 72/217;<sup>133</sup>

4. *Reaffirms* the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,<sup>123</sup> and urges its speedy, full and effective implementation, as well as effective monitoring, follow-up and review;

5. *Urges* the full and effective implementation of the commitments and partnerships announced at the Conference and the fulfilment of the provisions on all means of implementation, as contained in the Samoa Pathway;

6. *Welcomes* the continuing commitment of the international community to take urgent and concrete action to address the vulnerabilities of small island developing States and to continue to seek solutions, including additional ones, to the major challenges facing them in a concerted manner in order to support the full implementation of the Samoa Pathway;

7. *Recalls* the sustainable development priorities for small island developing States identified in the Samoa Pathway and set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>134</sup> as well as the outcome documents of all related United Nations conferences and processes, and, recognizing the interlinkages between them, urges consideration of these interlinkages through their implementation;

8. *Also recalls* paragraph 6 of resolution 72/217, notes that the high-level political forum on sustainable development shall devote adequate time at its 2019 meeting and at its future meetings to continuing to address the sustainable development challenges facing small island developing States and the follow-up to and implementation

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<sup>131</sup> [A/73/226](#).

<sup>132</sup> See [A/72/119](#) and [A/72/119/Add.1](#).

<sup>133</sup> [A/73/345](#).

<sup>134</sup> Resolution 70/1.

of the Samoa Pathway, and encourages the high-level political forum to devote sufficient attention to these discussions, bearing in mind that small island developing States are a special case for sustainable development, as well as to lessons learned from the follow-up and review processes of previous conferences on small island developing States and their outcome documents;

9. *Reiterates* the call, made in the declaration entitled “Our ocean, our future: call for action”,<sup>135</sup> for action to be taken, on an urgent basis, to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and urges its implementation, while recognizing the important contributions of the partnership dialogues and voluntary commitments made in the context of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, to the effective and timely implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 and therefore urges the fulfilment of these commitments;

10. *Recognizes* the efforts to implement the Global Action Programme on Food Security and Nutrition in Small Island Developing States, and encourages its continued implementation in all small island developing States regions to address challenges related to food security and nutrition, including through, inter alia, the Interregional Initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

11. *Acknowledges* that small island developing States are committed to the implementation of the Samoa Pathway and are mobilizing resources at the national and regional levels to that effect, despite their limited resource base, and calls upon the international community to assist and support small island developing States in the implementation of the Samoa Pathway, including by integrating its provisions into their national and regional policies and development frameworks;

12. *Urges* all partners to integrate the Samoa Pathway into their respective cooperation frameworks, programmes and activities, as appropriate, to ensure its effective follow-up and implementation;

13. *Urges* entities of the United Nations system to mainstream, within the realm of their mandates, the Samoa Pathway into their respective strategic plans and frameworks, and encourages all relevant stakeholders to make available sufficient and predictable resources for the effective and accelerated implementation of the Samoa Pathway;

14. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, and encourages international and regional financial institutions and other multilateral development partners, to continue to support small island developing States in their efforts to implement national sustainable development strategies and programmes by incorporating the priorities and activities of small island developing States into their relevant strategic and programmatic frameworks, including through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework process, at both the national and regional levels, in line with their mandates and overall priorities;

15. *Calls upon* the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States of the Secretariat, in accordance with their respective mandates, to continue to enhance the necessary analytical and advocacy support for the work of the Steering Committee on Partnerships for Small Island Developing States, to ensure an annual action-oriented, results-focused global multi-stakeholder small island developing States partnership dialogue;

16. *Encourages* the United Nations system to support the efforts of small island developing States to strengthen their cooperation on building resilience and on enhancing action with regard to adaptation to climate change;

17. *Recognizes* progress made in collecting disaster-related data and that the data and analysis from the Sendai Framework monitor, as well as the outcomes of the 2019 session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, are contributions to the midterm review of the Samoa Pathway, and further recognizes that the development of national climate change adaptation strategies and national disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020 is an opportunity to maximize synergies and the shared use of data sets and risk assessments;

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<sup>135</sup> Resolution 71/312, annex.

18. *Underlines* the need to give due consideration to the issues and concerns of small island developing States in all relevant major United Nations conferences and processes;

19. *Recalls* the need to fully mainstream a gender perspective into all United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions and their follow-up processes;

20. *Recognizes* that gender inequality remains a challenge for small island developing States, and recognizes further the need to continue efforts to further promote gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, as well as to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls;

21. *Underscores* the important role of the Small Island Developing States Unit of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Office of the High Representative in supporting small island developing States, in accordance with their respective mandates, including those under the Samoa Pathway and other intergovernmentally agreed documents and resolutions, recognizes their improved coordination and collaboration, and urges the continued leveraging of their complementary strengths in carrying out their annual workplans and related activities;

22. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Office of the High Representative to support the sustainable development agenda of the small island developing States through the Inter-Agency Consultative Group on Small Island Developing States and to enhance coherence and effective coordination between United Nations agencies and relevant stakeholders and improve communication and consultation with Member States;

23. *Recommends* that the United Nations system continue to work towards ensuring that the activities in support of sustainable development of small island developing States, within the mandate of each entity, are aligned with the priorities of those States and take into consideration any existing and national and regional enabling mechanisms facilitating policy coherence and consolidating resource mobilization;

24. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of its resolution [70/299](#) of 29 July 2016, and urges the United Nations system to take effective measures to reduce the reporting burden on small island developing States and support the strengthening of the effective monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Samoa Pathway through coherent, coordinated and effective linkages between the follow-up and review arrangements for the Samoa Pathway, the 2030 Agenda and other intergovernmentally agreed outcomes;

25. *Recognizes* that improved data collection and statistical analysis are required to enable small island developing States to effectively plan, follow up on, evaluate the implementation of and track success in attaining the internationally agreed development goals, and in this regard urges the international community and the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations development system, to continue their support to small island developing States in strengthening the capacity of national statistical offices and data systems to ensure access to high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data, in line with provisions of the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda, as appropriate to national contexts, with a view to supporting the implementation, follow-up and review of the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda;

26. *Urges* United Nations system entities to coordinate the planning and implementation of their capacity-building activities in close consultation with the small island developing States and all development partners so as to strengthen effectiveness and efficiency in providing support to achieve the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda, while avoiding saturation of the absorptive capacity of small island developing States at the country level;

27. *Requests* United Nations system entities, including the international financial institutions, to actively contribute, within their respective mandates, to addressing the unique and particular vulnerabilities of small island developing States, including through a more holistic approach so as to enable better access to financing for small island developing States;

28. *Reiterates* the request to the Secretary-General, pursuant to General Assembly resolution [71/243](#) and in line with paragraph 4 of resolution [72/279](#), to conduct a review of the configuration, capacity, resource needs, role and development services of multi-country offices, in full consultation with the countries involved, to improve the contribution of the offices to country progress in achieving the 2030 Agenda, to be presented to the Economic and Social Council at the operational activities for development segment of its 2019 session;

29. *Reaffirms* its decision to convene a one-day high-level review at United Nations Headquarters in September 2019, to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Samoa Pathway, which will result in a concise, action-oriented and intergovernmentally agreed political declaration, and in this regard recalls its decision 72/559, in which it decided to transmit the draft decision to hold the high-level review on 27 September 2019 to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session for action, requests the President of the General Assembly to finalize the organizational arrangements for the meeting, and encourages Governments and the United Nations system to attend the high-level review at the highest possible level;

30. *Welcomes* the convening of the regional preparatory meetings of small island developing States in Belize, Mauritius and Tonga, as well as the interregional meeting for all small island developing States, held in Samoa, in order to undertake a review of progress in the implementation of the Samoa Pathway at the national and regional levels, and takes note of their outcomes;

31. *Reiterates* the critical importance of the full and effective participation of the small island developing States in the high-level review process, and in this regard invites Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders and donors to contribute to the voluntary trust fund for the purpose of assisting small island developing States in participating fully and effectively in the high-level review processes;

32. *Welcomes* the establishment of the network of small island developing States national focal points, which is aimed at providing a vital link between the global, regional and national levels to facilitate coordination, information-sharing and planning on the implementation of the Samoa Pathway and the Sustainable Development Goals, further welcomes the convening of the inaugural meeting of the small island developing States national focal points on 29 October 2018 in Apia, on the sidelines of the interregional preparatory meeting for the midterm review of the Samoa Pathway, and encourages all small island developing States to participate in the network in order to further the implementation of the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda;

33. *Notes* the initial findings of the Joint Inspection Unit that resources have not increased over a period during which the mandates of the Small Island Developing States Unit and the Office of the High Representative have significantly expanded;<sup>136</sup>

34. *Notes with concern* the findings and conclusions of the needs assessment resulting from the expanding mandates of the small island developing States units of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Office of the High Representative;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General, by 2020, within existing resources, to ensure the allocation of adequate resources to respond to the expanding mandates in support of the sustainable development agenda of the small island developing States, and looks forward to the update by the Secretary-General on the repositioning of the United Nations development system and the alignment of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs with the 2030 Agenda;

36. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, under the agenda item on follow-up to and implementation of the Samoa Pathway, information on what has been done to address the needs resulting from the expanded mandates given to the small island developing States units of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Office of the High Representative;

37. *Reiterates its request*, made in resolution [72/307](#) that the Secretary-General submit a report on the follow-up to and implementation of the Samoa Pathway, making it available, on an exceptional basis, in early 2019, following the regional and interregional preparatory meetings for the high-level review, so that it can serve to support the intergovernmental consultations and be considered by the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

38. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, the sub-item entitled “Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States”, unless otherwise agreed.

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<sup>136</sup> See [A/71/324](#) and [A/71/324/Corr.1](#).



RESOLUTION 73/229

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/538/Add.2, para. 13)<sup>137</sup>

**73/229. Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the principles and commitments enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,<sup>138</sup> the principles embodied in the Declaration of Barbados,<sup>139</sup> the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,<sup>140</sup> the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,<sup>141</sup> the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),<sup>142</sup> the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,<sup>143</sup> the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>144</sup> the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,<sup>145</sup> the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development<sup>146</sup> and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>147</sup> as well as other relevant declarations and international instruments,

*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement,<sup>148</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>149</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Recalling* the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>150</sup>

*Recalling also* the Declaration and review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,<sup>151</sup>

*Recalling further* its resolution 71/312 of 6 July 2017, in which it endorsed the declaration entitled “Our ocean, our future: call for action”, adopted by the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, held from 5 to 9 June 2017, coinciding with World Oceans Day on 8 June, reaffirming in this regard the important role of the declaration in demonstrating the collective will to take action to conserve and

<sup>137</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Romania.

<sup>138</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>139</sup> *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 I.

<sup>140</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>141</sup> *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.

<sup>142</sup> *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

<sup>143</sup> *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 II.

<sup>144</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>145</sup> Resolution 69/15, annex.

<sup>146</sup> Resolution 69/313, annex.

<sup>147</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>148</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>149</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>150</sup> Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

<sup>151</sup> Resolution S-22/2, annex.



sustainably use our oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and recognizing the important contributions of the partnership dialogues and voluntary commitments made in the context of that Conference to the effective and timely implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Taking into account* all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 54/225 of 22 December 1999, 55/203 of 20 December 2000, 57/261 of 20 December 2002, 59/230 of 22 December 2004, 61/197 of 20 December 2006, 63/214 of 19 December 2008, 65/155 of 20 December 2010, 67/205 of 21 December 2012, 69/216 of 19 December 2014 and 71/224 of 21 December 2016,

*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,<sup>152</sup>

*Recalling also* the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, signed at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 24 March 1983,<sup>153</sup> and the protocols thereto, which contain the definition of the wider Caribbean region of which the Caribbean Sea is part,

*Reaffirming* the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,<sup>154</sup> which provides the legal framework for ocean activities, and emphasizing its fundamental character, conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach,

*Recalling* the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>155</sup> and other biodiversity-related conventions, including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora<sup>156</sup> and the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat,<sup>157</sup>

*Emphasizing* the importance of national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector as recognized by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,<sup>158</sup>

*Recalling* the relevant work done by the International Maritime Organization,

*Considering* that the Caribbean Sea area includes a large number of States, countries and territories, most of which are developing countries and small island developing States that are ecologically fragile and socially and economically vulnerable and are also affected, inter alia, by their limited capacity, narrow resource base, need for financial resources, high levels of poverty and the resulting social problems, and the challenges and opportunities of globalization and trade liberalization,

*Recognizing* that the Caribbean Sea has unique biodiversity and highly fragile ecosystems,

*Recognizing also* that the Caribbean has been shown to be the most tourism-dependent region in the world relative to its size,

*Noting* that the Caribbean Sea, when compared with all other large marine ecosystems, is surrounded by the largest number of countries in the world,

*Emphasizing* that the Caribbean countries have a high degree of vulnerability occasioned by climate change, climate variability and associated phenomena, such as the rising sea level, oceanic oscillation phenomena, such as the El Niño phenomenon, and the potential increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters caused by hurricanes, floods and droughts, and that they are also subject to natural disasters, such as those caused by volcanoes, tsunamis and earthquakes, which increase their sustainable development challenges,

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<sup>152</sup> Resolution 60/1.

<sup>153</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1506, No. 25974.

<sup>154</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

<sup>155</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>156</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

<sup>157</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 996, No. 14583.

<sup>158</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

*Welcoming* the initiative of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to establish a debt swap task force so that Caribbean economies can mitigate and adapt to the consequences of climate change while trying to reduce the debt burden,

*Bearing in mind* the heavy reliance of most of the Caribbean economies on their coastal areas, as well as on the marine environment in general, to achieve their sustainable development needs and goals,

*Acknowledging* that the intensive use of the Caribbean Sea for maritime transport, as well as the considerable number and interlocking character of the maritime areas under national jurisdiction where Caribbean countries exercise their rights and duties under international law, present a challenge for the effective management of resources,

*Noting* the problem of marine pollution caused, inter alia, by land-based sources and the continuing threat of pollution from ship-generated waste and sewage, as well as from the accidental release of hazardous and noxious substances in the Caribbean Sea area,

*Recalling* the call upon all stakeholders to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development by, inter alia, accelerating actions to prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris, plastics and microplastics, nutrient pollution, untreated wastewater, solid waste discharges, hazardous substances, pollution from ships and abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear, while at the same time recognizing that small island developing States are among the most vulnerable to the impacts of marine pollution,

*Taking note* of the relevant resolutions of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency on the safe transport of radioactive materials,

*Mindful* of the diversity of and dynamic interaction and competition among socioeconomic activities for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources,

*Mindful also* of the efforts of the Caribbean countries to address in a more holistic manner the sectoral issues relating to the management of the wider Caribbean Sea region and, in so doing, to promote the integrated management of the wider Caribbean Sea region in the context of sustainable development, through a regional cooperative effort among Caribbean countries,

*Noting* the significant progress made on regional ocean governance through the formulation of the strategic action programme of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem project, endorsed by ministers in 21 countries of the region,

*Welcoming* the continued efforts of the States members and associate members of the Association of Caribbean States to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, and recognizing in this regard the firm commitment by Heads of State and Government of the Association to take the steps necessary to ensure the recognition of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, without prejudice to relevant international law,

*Recalling* the creation by the Association of Caribbean States of the Caribbean Sea Commission, and welcoming its ongoing work and its contribution to the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea,

*Cognizant* of the importance of the Caribbean Sea to present and future generations and to the heritage and the continuing economic well-being and sustenance of people living in the area and of the urgent need for the countries of the region to take appropriate steps for its preservation and protection, with the support of the international community,

1. *Recognizes* that the Caribbean Sea is an area of unique biodiversity and a highly fragile ecosystem that requires relevant regional and international development partners to work together to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, including the consideration of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, including its designation as such without prejudice to international law;

2. *Underlines* the need to address the economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change, and emphasizes the need for regional and international action to enhance efforts at the national and subnational levels, as appropriate, to build resilience;

#### IV. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Second Committee

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3. *Notes* the efforts of the Caribbean States and the work undertaken by the Caribbean Sea Commission of the Association of Caribbean States, including the development of their concept of the designation of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, and invites the international community to support such efforts;

4. *Reaffirms its support* for the plan of action adopted by the Caribbean Sea Commission, including its scientific and technical components and its governance and outreach components, and invites the international community and the United Nations system to enhance their support, including financial, technical and capacity-building assistance, as appropriate, to Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to implement the plan of action;

5. *Welcomes* the resources provided by some donors to support the work of the Caribbean Sea Commission, and invites the international community to continue and to enhance its support, as appropriate, to the Commission, including through the provision of financial resources, capacity-building and technical support, the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms and the sharing of experience in the areas of work of the Commission;

6. *Invites* the international community to support the efforts of the Caribbean Sea Commission to establish a databank with the aim of improving the management of the specific emerging critical issues related to the sustainability of the Caribbean Sea through the sharing of management experiences and project resource data, including, but not limited to, the prediction, monitoring and management of sargassum seaweed inundation faced by the Caribbean;

7. *Looks forward* to the convening of the eighth summit of the Association of Caribbean States, to be held in Nicaragua in March 2019, at which the plan of action for the period 2019–2021, which will include measures to support and promote the preservation and sustainable use of the Caribbean Sea, will be adopted;

8. *Recognizes* the efforts of Caribbean countries to create conditions leading to sustainable development aimed at combating poverty and inequality, and in this regard notes with interest the initiatives of the Association of Caribbean States in the focal areas of sustainable tourism, trade, transport and natural disasters;

9. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the international community to assist Caribbean countries and their regional organizations, as appropriate, in their efforts to ensure the protection of the Caribbean Sea from degradation as a result of pollution from ships, in particular through the illegal release of oil and other harmful substances, and pollution from the illegal dumping or accidental release of hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals, in violation of relevant international rules and standards, as well as pollution from land-based activities;

10. *Invites* the Association of Caribbean States to submit to the Secretary-General a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session;

11. *Calls upon* all States to become parties to the relevant international agreements to enhance maritime safety and to promote the protection of the marine environment of the Caribbean Sea from pollution, damage and degradation from ships and ship-generated waste;

12. *Reaffirms*, in this regard, the Special Area designation for the wider Caribbean region under annex V to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto,<sup>159</sup> which entered into force in May 2011;

13. *Supports* the efforts of Caribbean countries to implement sustainable fisheries management programmes and to meet the principles of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

14. *Calls upon* States, taking into consideration the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>155</sup> to develop national, regional and international programmes to halt the loss of marine biodiversity in the Caribbean Sea, in particular fragile ecosystems such as coral reefs and mangroves;

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<sup>159</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1340, No. 22484.

15. *Notes with deep concern* that invasive alien species, such as *Pterois miles* and *P. volitans*, known as lionfish, constitute an emerging threat to biodiversity in the wider Caribbean region, and urges the United Nations system and the international community to continue to provide assistance and support in addressing this issue in the region;

16. *Also notes with deep concern* the sargassum seaweed influx and its negative impact on the people, the territory and the economy of the Caribbean, as well as the deterioration of the coral reefs;

17. *Invites* Member States and intergovernmental organizations of the United Nations system to continue their efforts to assist Caribbean countries in becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols concerning the management, protection and sustainable utilization of Caribbean Sea resources and in implementing those conventions and protocols effectively;

18. *Calls upon* the international community, the United Nations system and the multilateral financial institutions, and invites the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, to actively support the national and regional activities of the Caribbean States for the promotion of the sustainable management of coastal and marine resources;

19. *Expresses deep concern* about the severe destruction and devastation caused to several countries by heightened hurricane activity in the wider Caribbean region in recent years, in particular the 2017 Atlantic hurricane season;

20. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing activities of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and invites Member States and other partners to support early warning systems in the region;

21. *Urges* the United Nations system and the international community to continue to provide aid and assistance to the countries of the Caribbean region in the implementation of their long-term programmes of disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, management, relief and recovery, on the basis of their development priorities, through the integration of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction into a comprehensive approach to sustainable development;

22. *Acknowledges* the pivotal role of the Association of Caribbean States in regional dialogue and in the consolidation of a wider Caribbean cooperation zone in the field of disaster risk reduction, as well as the importance of the international community in deepening existing cooperation and consolidating new initiatives with that regional mechanism in the context of the outcomes of the High-level Conference on Disaster Reduction of the Association of Caribbean States, held in Saint-Marc, Haiti, from 14 to 16 November 2007, and the plan of action approved by the Ministerial Council of the Association upon the recommendation of the Conference;

23. *Invites* Member States, international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to consider training programmes for the development of a human resources capacity at different levels and to develop research aimed at enhancing the food security of Caribbean countries, as well as the sustainable management of renewable marine and coastal resources;

24. *Calls upon* Member States to improve, as a matter of priority, their emergency response capabilities and the containment of environmental damage, particularly in the Caribbean Sea, in the event of natural disasters or an accident or incident relating to maritime navigation;

25. *Encourages* the international community and the United Nations system, in line with their programming priorities, to support initiatives aimed at addressing mitigation of and adaptation to climate change in the wider Caribbean region included in the Plan of Action for 2016–2018;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, under the sub-item entitled “Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States” of the item entitled “Sustainable development”, on the implementation of the present resolution, emphasizing the three dimensions of sustainable development, including a section on the possible legal and financial implications of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, including its designation as such, without prejudice to relevant international law, taking into account the views expressed by Member States and relevant regional organizations, unless otherwise agreed.

**RESOLUTION 73/230**

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/538/Add.3, para. 17)<sup>160</sup>

**73/230. Effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 69/218 of 19 December 2014, 70/110 of 23 December 2015 and 71/227 of 21 December 2016 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999, 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2000/33 of 28 July 2000, and taking into consideration all other relevant resolutions,

*Noting* that the El Niño phenomenon has a recurring character and can lead to extensive natural hazards with the potential to seriously affect humankind,

*Noting also* that technological developments and international cooperation have enhanced the capabilities for the prediction of the El Niño phenomenon and thereby the potential for the preventive actions that may be taken to reduce its negative impacts,

*Reaffirming* the Sendai Declaration<sup>161</sup> and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>162</sup> adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,

*Reaffirming also* 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,

*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement<sup>163</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>164</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Noting* that further research on the impacts of climate change, including the effects of arctic changes on the El Niño phenomenon, can support more effective planning for resilience and recovery,

*Noting with concern* the scientific findings contained in the special report entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

*Reaffirming* 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,

*Reaffirming also* 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,<sup>165</sup>

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<sup>160</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

<sup>161</sup> Resolution 69/283, annex I.

<sup>162</sup> Ibid., annex II.

<sup>163</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>164</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>165</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

*Reaffirming further* its vision of cities and human settlements that adopt and implement disaster risk reduction and management, reduce vulnerability, build resilience and responsiveness to natural and human-made hazards and foster mitigation of and adaptation to climate change,

*Noting with concern* that the El Niño phenomenon has posed a serious challenge to the hard-fought development gains of developing countries, particularly in terms of diverting resources from national development plans and programmes,

*Conscious* of the importance of enhanced concerted efforts by the World Meteorological Organization with relevant national, regional and international monitoring centres to deliver, effectively and in a timely manner, more regionally focused climate services as well as training and capacity-building related to the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon, and noting the role of the International Research Centre on El Niño at Guayaquil, Ecuador, in this regard,

*Recalling* that the peak of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon was comparable in strength to the 1982/83 and 1997/98 events and, therefore, one of the strongest on record, and affected more than 60 million people during 2015 and 2016, in particular in developing countries, with significant short- and long-term impacts on the health of individuals, the economy and food production locally, regionally and globally, particularly affecting people whose livelihood depends on agriculture, fisheries and livestock activities,

*Noting with concern* that, as a consequence of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon, heavy rains, floods and, conversely, cold waves and heatwaves, wildfires, coral bleaching and drought episodes adversely affected countries and peoples, in particular in Latin America, Eastern and Southern Africa and South-East Asia and the Pacific, including by increasing the spread of diseases and the number of people displaced, affecting food security and infrastructure and hampering the ability of those countries and peoples to achieve sustainable development,

*Noting with appreciation* that some countries were able to partly reduce the adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon by designing and implementing government-led early action plans that included the establishment of resilient multipurpose dams and other infrastructure projects, reinforcing existing social and productive infrastructure, revitalizing health services to combat vector-borne diseases, and strengthening social support services, safety nets, appropriate and preventive agriculture practices, income-generating public works and welfare programmes,

*Acknowledging* the importance of humanitarian assistance provided to countries that were most affected by the adverse effects of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon, while stressing the need to transcend this approach in favour of a multidisciplinary and articulated development-based response to strengthen national institutional capacities and effectively address these adverse consequences,

*Noting* that the World Meteorological Organization has predicted a 70 to 80 per cent chance of a weak El Niño/Southern Oscillation phenomenon prevailing during the winter of 2018/19 and a 55 to 60 per cent chance of its continuing into the spring of 2019 to be the most likely scenario,

*Noting also* the work of the Special Envoys of the Secretary-General on El Niño and Climate in calling attention to the severe short- and long-term impacts of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon, which culminated in the submission of the report entitled “Preventing El Niño Southern Oscillation episodes from becoming disasters: a blueprint for action”,

*Noting with appreciation* the inclusion of the discussions on the important contributions of science, technology and innovation to building resilience to the socioeconomic and environmental impacts of the El Niño phenomenon held during the multi-stakeholder forums on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Noting* that the sixth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction will be held in Geneva, from 13 to 17 May 2019, on the theme “Resilience dividend: towards sustainable and inclusive societies”,

*Noting also* the climate summit called for by the Secretary-General, to be held in New York in 2019,

*Reiterating* the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,



*Recommitting* to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>166</sup> which include a section on an effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon;

2. *Urges* the effective implementation of the Sendai Declaration<sup>161</sup> and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;<sup>162</sup>

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of developing multi-hazard strategies at the local, national, subregional, regional and international levels by 2020, in line with the Sendai Framework, that aim to prevent, mitigate and repair the adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of the El Niño phenomenon, while recognizing ongoing national initiatives by affected countries to strengthen their capacities;

4. *Recognizes* the continued efforts by the Governments of Ecuador and Spain, the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction to support the International Research Centre on El Niño, and encourages them and other members of the international community to continue to make such contributions for the advancement of the Centre;

5. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken so far to strengthen the International Research Centre on El Niño, through collaboration with international monitoring centres, including national oceanographic institutions, and encourages further efforts to enhance regional and international recognition of and support for the Centre and to develop tools for decision makers and government authorities aimed at reducing the impact of the El Niño phenomenon;

6. *Notes* the assistance provided to Governments by the International Research Centre on El Niño and by other Governments and institutions in the development of early warning systems that allow for the implementation of anticipatory risk reduction measures that contribute to the reduction and prevention of the potential human, economic and environmental impacts of the phenomenon;

7. *Recognizes* the contributions of the United Nations system, namely, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, the World Food Programme and the World Meteorological Organization, to guidance on and action planning for El Niño, as a phenomenon that causes impacts of a multisectoral nature, including on food security, livelihood, health and water and sanitation, and encourages strengthened collaboration also with other relevant institutions;

8. *Also recognizes* the technical and scientific support of the World Meteorological Organization in producing regionally coordinated monthly and seasonal forecasts, in particular its establishment of a consensus mechanism for the development of updates on El Niño/La Niña conditions, which receives contributions from several climate centres, and further recognizes various initiatives undertaken by different countries to strengthen national and regional capacities;

9. *Encourages* the World Meteorological Organization, in this regard, to continue to strengthen collaboration and the exchange of data and information with relevant institutions;

10. *Encourages* Governments to promote the full, equal and effective participation and leadership of women, as well as of persons with disabilities, in the design, management, resourcing and implementation of gender-responsive and disability-inclusive policies, plans and programmes on the preparation for and response to the El Niño phenomenon, and recognizes in this regard that women and girls are disproportionately exposed to risk, increased loss of livelihoods and even loss of life during and in the aftermath of disasters, and that disasters and the consequent disruption to physical, social, economic and environmental networks and support systems disproportionately affect persons with disabilities and their families;

11. *Stresses* that during neutral El Niño and La Niña years it is critical to prepare for, build resilience to and reduce the risks of the next event, including through integrated plans;

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<sup>166</sup> [A/72/259](#) and [A/73/268](#).

12. *Encourages* responses to the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon not only to address the immediate needs but also to support longer-term sustainable development and build the resilience of livelihoods, especially in the agricultural sectors and in rural areas;
13. *Calls upon* the international community to provide financial, technical and capacity-building support to countries affected by the El Niño phenomenon, prioritizing resources to developing countries;
14. *Encourages* the United Nations inter-agency task team on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, the annual multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals and the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to consider further discussing recommendations on how to better identify requirements and options for the adequate provision of science, technology and innovation elements to enable countries to address the impacts of the El Niño/ La Niña phenomenon, as appropriate;
15. *Encourages* the annual Global Infrastructure Forum to identify and address, as appropriate, infrastructure and capacity gaps and needs to enhance preparedness and promote early actions in countries affected by the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon;
16. *Encourages* the sixth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction to include in its discussions ways to enhance preparedness, build resilience, promote early actions, reduce risks and address the impacts of the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon, as appropriate;
17. *Requests* the United Nations system, through existing coordination mechanisms and platforms, to take into consideration, where appropriate, the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon when designing risk reduction and development strategies, in particular in the context of the United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience: Towards a Risk-Informed and Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development;
18. *Encourages* interested Member States, with the support of the United Nations development system, to develop integrated, coherent and comprehensive government-led strategies to mitigate the adverse impacts of the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon and to collaborate in support of affected countries;
19. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;
20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his reports to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth and seventy-fifth sessions, under the sub-item entitled “Disaster risk reduction” of the item entitled “Sustainable development”, a section on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to consider at its seventy-fifth session the topic “Effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon” under the sub-item entitled “Disaster risk reduction”, unless otherwise agreed.

#### RESOLUTION 73/231

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/538/Add.3, para. 17)<sup>167</sup>

##### **73/231. Disaster risk reduction**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 72/218 of 20 December 2017 and all previous relevant resolutions,

*Recalling also* the Sendai Declaration<sup>168</sup> and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>169</sup>

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<sup>167</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Russian Federation and Switzerland.

<sup>168</sup> Resolution 69/283, annex I.

<sup>169</sup> Ibid., annex II.

*Recalling further* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,<sup>170</sup> Agenda 21,<sup>171</sup> the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,<sup>172</sup> the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development<sup>173</sup> and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),<sup>174</sup> and reaffirming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>175</sup> in particular the decisions related to disaster risk reduction,

*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,

*Reaffirming further* 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,<sup>176</sup> and recognizing the linkages between disaster risk reduction and sustainable urban development,

*Recognizing* the need for a broader and a more people-centred preventive approach to disaster risk and that disaster risk reduction practices need to be multi-hazard and multisectoral, inclusive and accessible in order to be efficient and effective,

*Reiterating* the call in the Sendai Framework for the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries,

*Expressing its deep concern* at the number and scale of disasters and their devastating impact this year and in recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life, displacement and long-term negative economic, social and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, and which hamper the achievement of their sustainable development, in particular that of developing countries,

*Recognizing* the importance of promoting policies and planning that build resilience and reduce displacement risk in the context of disasters, including through transboundary cooperation,

*Recalling* the convening of the International Conference on the Implementation of the Health Aspects of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, held in Bangkok on 10 and 11 March 2016, which adopted the Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework as a contribution to the Sendai Framework to build resilient health systems,

*Recognizing* climate change as one of the drivers of disaster risk, and that the adverse effects of climate change, as contributors to environmental degradation and extreme weather events, may, in certain instances, among other

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<sup>170</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>171</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>172</sup> Resolution S-19/2, annex.

<sup>173</sup> *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.

<sup>174</sup> *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

<sup>175</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>176</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

factors, contribute to disaster-induced human mobility, and in this regard acknowledging the internationally agreed outcomes adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,<sup>177</sup>

*Recognizing also* that disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change and are increasing in frequency and intensity, significantly impede progress towards sustainable development,

*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement,<sup>178</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Looks forward* to the climate summit called for by the Secretary-General, to be held in New York in 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change,

*Highlighting* the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the scientific findings contained in the special report entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

*Reaffirming* the importance of strengthening international cooperation, in the face of disasters, weather-related hazards, including those driven by natural climate cycles such as the El Niño Southern Oscillation, and the adverse effects of climate change, to estimate and prevent major damage and ensure an adequate response, early action and attention to the affected populations in a timely manner in order to enhance resilience to their impacts, and recognizing in this regard the importance of developing risk-informed strategies, risk finance tools, including forecast-based financing approaches and disaster risk insurance mechanisms and coordinated multi-hazard early warning systems, including timely risk communication at the local, national and regional levels,

*Recognizing* that disaster-prone developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges, warrant particular attention in view of their higher vulnerability and risk levels, which often greatly exceed their capacity to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters, and recognizing also that similar attention and appropriate assistance should also be extended to other disaster-prone countries with specific characteristics, such as archipelagic countries, as well as countries with extensive coastlines,

*Recalling* that the Sendai Framework applies to risks of small-scale and large-scale, frequent and infrequent, sudden and slow-onset disasters caused by natural or human-made hazards, as well as related environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks,

*Reiterating* the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

*Recommitting* to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/218;<sup>179</sup>

2. *Urges* the effective implementation of the Sendai Declaration<sup>168</sup> and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;<sup>169</sup>

3. *Reiterates its call for* the prevention of new and the reduction of existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political, financial and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery and thus strengthen resilience;

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<sup>177</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>178</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>179</sup> [A/73/268](#).

4. *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;

5. *Encourages* countries, the relevant United Nations bodies, agencies, funds and programmes and other relevant institutions and stakeholders to take into consideration the important role of coordinated disaster risk governance across sectors for the achievement of sustainable development and, inter alia, the strengthening of disaster prevention as well as preparedness for effective response, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction;

6. *Encourages* focused action within and across sectors by countries at the local, national, regional and global levels in the four priority areas of the Sendai Framework, namely, understanding disaster risk, strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk, investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience and enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and in order to “build back better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction;

7. *Acknowledges* the work of the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system in disaster risk reduction and the updated United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience: Towards a Risk-informed and Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development, requests the relevant United Nations bodies, agencies, funds and programmes, and urges other relevant institutions and stakeholders, to continue to align their work with the Plan of Action, including through risk-informed strategic plans, common country assessments and United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, in order to enhance the coordination, coherence and efficiency of support to countries on disaster risk reduction, guided by the Senior Leadership Group on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience convened by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, according to the Sendai Framework;

8. *Calls upon* all relevant actors to work towards the achievement of the global targets adopted in the Sendai Framework;

9. *Recognizes* progress made in achieving target (e) of the Sendai Framework and that the development of risk-informed strategic plans, policies, programmes and investments and national and local disaster risk reduction strategies is essential for sustainable development;

10. *Also recognizes* in this regard, given the shorter time frame for achieving target (e) of the Sendai Framework by 2020, the scale of action needed for the development of national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, and thus urges States to continue to prioritize and support the development of inclusive national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, with particular focus on local strategies and programmes, and to promote their alignment and integration with sustainable development and climate change adaptation strategies, including national adaptation plans, as appropriate, making use of practical guidance to support the achievement of target (e), and notes in this regard the relevant voluntary “Words into Action” guidelines;

11. *Urges* States to prioritize the establishment and strengthening of national disaster loss databases and to conduct disaster risk assessments so as to develop inclusive and multi-hazard risk assessments that consider climate change projections to support evidence-based disaster risk reduction strategies and guide risk-informed development investments by the private and public sectors;

12. *Reaffirms* the need for the enhancement of the implementation capacity and capability of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges, including the mobilization of support through international cooperation, for the provision of means of implementation to augment domestic efforts in accordance with their national priorities;

13. *Recognizes* that effective and meaningful global and regional partnerships and the further strengthening of international cooperation, including the fulfilment of respective commitments of official development assistance by developed countries, are essential for effective disaster risk management;

14. *Also recognizes* that financing for disaster risk reduction requires greater attention, and invites the United Nations system and its entities, within the scope of their respective mandates, in partnership with international financial institutions, regional development banks and other relevant institutions and stakeholders, to explore the development of tailored financing mechanisms for disaster risk reduction;

15. *Encourages* the incorporation of disaster risk reduction measures, as appropriate, into multilateral and bilateral development assistance programmes and infrastructure financing, within and across all sectors related to sustainable development, including poverty reduction, agriculture, natural resource management, the environment, urban development and adaptation to climate change;

16. *Encourages* States to allocate domestic resources to disaster risk reduction, to include disaster risk reduction in budgeting and financial planning across all relevant sectors, and to ensure that national financing frameworks and infrastructure plans are risk-informed, according to national plans and policies;

17. *Recognizes* the important contribution of healthy ecosystems to reducing disaster risk and building community resilience, and encourages all States, United Nations bodies and other relevant actors to promote ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction approaches at all levels;

18. *Also recognizes* that economic losses are rising as a result of the increasing number and value of assets exposed to hazards, and encourages countries to conduct a disaster risk assessment of existing critical infrastructure, to support the publication of disaster risk assessments, to make disaster risk assessments a prerequisite for infrastructure and housing investments and to strengthen regulatory frameworks for land-use planning and building codes, as appropriate, towards the achievement of target (d) of the Sendai Framework, and in this regard encourages countries to integrate disaster risk reduction considerations into social, economic and environmental investments;

19. *Acknowledges* that water is essential to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>180</sup> and that water-related disasters and multidimensional hazards threaten lives, livelihoods, agriculture and basic service infrastructure and cause substantial socioeconomic damage and losses, and that sustainable, integrated disaster risk-informed water resource management is necessary for successful disaster preparedness, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, and in this regard invites all countries to integrate land and water management, including for floods and droughts, into their national and subnational planning and management processes;

20. *Emphasizes* that disaster prevention, preparedness, early actions and resilience-building in most cases are significantly more cost-effective than emergency response, as well as the importance of additional efforts to increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning mechanisms of States, in order to ensure that early warning leads to early action, and encourages all relevant stakeholders to support these efforts;

21. *Urges* States, while implementing the Sendai Framework, to continue working on data collection and the development of baselines on current losses, including livelihood and other losses of affected populations, and working towards the collection of disaggregated information and historical disaster losses going back, at least, to 2005, if feasible;

22. *Encourages* States to give appropriate consideration to disaster risk reduction in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>180</sup> where it is reflected across several Goals and targets, including in their voluntary national reviews, inter alia, through the engagement of national Sendai Framework focal points early in the national review process, as appropriate, and stresses the importance of considering disaster risk reduction in the deliberations and outcomes of the high-level political forum on sustainable development to be held in 2019 and of taking disaster risk reduction into account in the implementation and review of the Sustainable Development Goals, including during the high-level political forum, over the next cycle;

23. *Reiterates* its strong encouragement of and the need for effective coordination and coherence, as applicable, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>181</sup> the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,<sup>178</sup> and the Sendai Framework, as well as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,<sup>177</sup> the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>182</sup> the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,<sup>183</sup> and the New Urban Agenda,<sup>176</sup> while respecting the relevant mandates, in order to build

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<sup>180</sup> See resolution 70/1.

<sup>181</sup> Resolution 69/313, annex.

<sup>182</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>183</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.



synergies and resilience, translate integrated global policy frameworks into integrated multisectoral programmes at the national and local levels and reduce disaster risk across sectors, and addressing the global challenge of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty;

24. *Urges* that due consideration continue to be given to the review of the global progress in the implementation of the Sendai Framework as part of the integrated and coordinated follow-up processes to United Nations conferences and summits, aligned with the Economic and Social Council, the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the quadrennial comprehensive policy review cycles, as appropriate, taking into account the contributions of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and regional and subregional platforms for disaster risk reduction and the Sendai Framework monitor;

25. *Recognizes* that disaster risk reduction requires a multi-hazard approach and inclusive risk-informed decision-making based on the open exchange and dissemination of disaggregated data, including by sex, age and disability, as well as on easily accessible, up-to-date, comprehensible, science-based, non-sensitive risk information, for a wide range of users and decision makers, complemented by traditional knowledge, and in this regard encourages States to commence or, as appropriate, further enhance the collection of data on disaster loss and other relevant disaster risk reduction targets, disaggregated by sex, age and disability and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, in reporting on the Sendai Framework;

26. *Welcomes* the launch of the Sendai Framework monitor, encourages States to use the online monitor to report on progress against the Sendai Framework global targets and the Sustainable Development Goals related to disaster risk to provide, inter alia, a comprehensive overview of progress to inform the deliberations and outcomes of the high-level political forum on sustainable development to be held in 2019 and the sixth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Geneva from 13 to 17 May 2019, and notes the ongoing work towards coherence between national climate change adaptation and national disaster risk reduction strategies, as well as the Sendai Framework target indicators and national adaptation goals and indicators;

27. *Also welcomes* the endorsement by the Economic and Social Council of the Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters;<sup>184</sup>

28. *Reaffirms* that the establishment of common indicators and shared data sets to measure the Sendai Framework global targets and the disaster risk reduction targets of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 11 and 13 is an important contribution to ensure coherence, feasibility and consistency in implementation, the collection of data and reporting, and in this regard recognizes the importance of prioritizing capacity-building support to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges;

29. *Recognizes* that the extent to which developing countries are able to effectively enhance and implement national disaster risk reduction policies and measures in the context of their respective circumstances and capabilities can be further enhanced through the provision of sustainable international cooperation;

30. *Also recognizes* the importance of giving priority to the development of local and national disaster risk reduction capacity-building, policies, strategies and plans with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, in accordance with national practices and legislation;

31. *Further recognizes* that, while each State has the primary responsibility for preventing and reducing disaster risk, it is a shared responsibility between Governments and relevant stakeholders, and recognizes that non-State and other relevant stakeholders, including major groups, parliaments, civil society, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, non-governmental organizations, national platforms for disaster risk reduction, focal points for the Sendai Framework, local government representatives, scientific institutions and the private sector, as well as organizations and relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions and intergovernmental organizations, play an important role as enablers in providing support to States, in accordance with national policies, laws and regulations, in the implementation of the Sendai Framework at the local, national, regional and global levels, and that greater efforts are needed to mobilize multi-stakeholder partnerships for disaster risk reduction, according to national plans and policies;

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<sup>184</sup> Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/14, annex.

32. *Welcomes* the annual observance of the International Day for Disaster Reduction on 13 October and World Tsunami Awareness Day on 5 November, encourages all States, United Nations bodies and other relevant actors to observe the days to further raise public awareness of disaster risk reduction, and decides to rename the International Day for Disaster Reduction as the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction;

33. *Encourages* Governments to promote the full, equal and effective participation and leadership of women, as well as of persons with disabilities, in the design, management, resourcing and implementation of gender-responsive and disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes, and recognizes in this regard that women and girls are disproportionately exposed to risk, increased loss of livelihoods and even loss of life during and in the aftermath of disasters, and that disasters and the consequent disruption to physical, social, economic and environmental networks and support systems disproportionately affect persons with disabilities and their families;

34. *Stresses* the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective and the perspectives of persons with disabilities in disaster risk management so as to strengthen the resilience of communities and reduce social vulnerabilities to disasters, and in this regard recognizes the need for the inclusive participation and contribution of women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as the role of youth, volunteers, migrants, local communities, academia, scientific and research entities and networks, business, professional associations, private sector financing institutions and the media, in all forums and processes related to disaster risk reduction, in accordance with the Sendai Framework;

35. *Recognizes* that biological hazards require strengthened coordination between disaster and health risk management systems in the areas of risk assessment, surveillance and early warning, and that resilient health infrastructures and strengthened health systems capable of implementing the International Health Regulations (2005),<sup>185</sup> as well as increasing the overall capacity of health systems, reduce overall disaster risk and build disaster resilience;

36. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Switzerland for hosting the upcoming sixth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva from 13 to 17 May 2019, jointly organized with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, encourages participation across all sectors and ministries at the highest level possible, reaffirms the importance of the Global Platform as a forum to assess and discuss progress on the Sendai Framework and advance coherence between disaster risk reduction, sustainable development and climate change mitigation and adaptation, including financing, and recognizes the outcomes of the Global Platform as a contribution to the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

37. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Governments of Armenia, Colombia, Fiji, Italy, Mongolia and Tunisia as the hosts, in 2018, of the regional platforms for disaster risk reduction, jointly organized with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, recognizes the platforms as important mechanisms for cooperation to implement the Sendai Framework and to assess and discuss progress, and also recognizes their outcomes as contributions to the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

38. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation for disaster risk reduction includes a variety of sources and is a critical element in supporting the efforts of developing countries to reduce disaster risk, and encourages States to strengthen international and regional information exchange and sharing, including through North-South cooperation complemented by South-South and triangular cooperation, establishing and networking risk management centres, promoting critical science and technology research cooperation on disaster reduction and improving international coordination mechanisms to respond to large-scale natural disasters;

39. *Acknowledges* the importance of the work of the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions in disaster risk reduction, the substantial increase in demands on the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the need for timely, stable, adequate and predictable resources necessary for supporting the implementation of the Sendai Framework, and in this regard encourages Member States to consider providing or augmenting voluntary contributions to the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction;

40. *Recognizes* the continued importance of voluntary funding, and urges existing and new donors to provide sufficient funding and, where possible, to augment financial contributions to the United Nations trust fund for disaster reduction to support the implementation of the Sendai Framework, including through unearmarked and, where possible, multi-annual contributions;

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<sup>185</sup> World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1, resolution 58.3, annex.

41. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders to collaborate with the private sector to enhance the resilience of businesses, as well as the societies within which they operate, by integrating disaster risk into their management practices, to facilitate private investments in disaster risk reduction and to promote risk-informed private investments;

42. *Reaffirms* that investing in national and local skills, systems and knowledge to build resilience and preparedness will save lives, reduce the risk of displacement in the context of disasters, cut costs and preserve development gains, and in this regard encourages exploring innovative ways, such as forecast-based financing approaches and disaster risk insurance mechanisms, to increase the availability of resources for Member States before a disaster is credibly expected to occur;

43. *Stresses* the importance of promoting the incorporation of disaster risk knowledge, including disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery and rehabilitation, in formal and non-formal education, as well as in civic education at all levels and in professional education and training;

44. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

45. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, the sub-item entitled “Disaster risk reduction”, unless otherwise agreed.

#### RESOLUTION 73/232

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/538/Add.4, para. 9)<sup>186</sup>

#### 73/232. 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 and 72/219 of 20 December 2017 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 Change<sup>187</sup> and the Paris Agreement adopted under the Convention,<sup>188</sup> 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 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

<sup>186</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

<sup>187</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>188</sup> See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

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-fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the third part of the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, in Katowice, Poland, from 2 to 14 December 2018,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>189</sup> the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development<sup>190</sup> and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),<sup>191</sup> the 2005 World Summit Outcome,<sup>192</sup> 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”,<sup>193</sup> 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,<sup>194</sup> 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,<sup>195</sup> 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,<sup>196</sup> the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,<sup>197</sup> the Mauritius Declaration<sup>198</sup> and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,<sup>199</sup> the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,<sup>200</sup> the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>201</sup> the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,<sup>202</sup> 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,<sup>203</sup>

*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

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<sup>189</sup> Resolution 55/2.

<sup>190</sup> *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.

<sup>191</sup> *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

<sup>192</sup> Resolution 60/1.

<sup>193</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>194</sup> *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

<sup>195</sup> Resolution 70/294, annex.

<sup>196</sup> Resolution 69/137, annex II.

<sup>197</sup> *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.

<sup>198</sup> *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.

<sup>199</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>200</sup> Resolution 69/15, annex.

<sup>201</sup> Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

<sup>202</sup> *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.

<sup>203</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

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,

*Taking note* of the Green Climate Fund and its initial resource mobilization process, making it the largest dedicated climate fund, and its approval of 4.6 billion United States dollars in funding to support the implementation of 93 climate change adaptation and mitigation projects and programmes in 96 developing countries, reiterating the objectives and guiding principles of the Fund, including a gender-sensitive approach in its process and operations, 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 adapt to the impacts of climate change, recognizing that the Board of the Fund decided to launch the process for the first formal replenishment, 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,<sup>204</sup> 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* 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,<sup>205</sup> and the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>206</sup> as appropriate, while respecting their individual mandates,

*Noting also* 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,

*Welcoming* the entry into force on 1 January 2019 of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer,<sup>207</sup> welcoming also its ratification by 59 countries and one regional economic integration organization, while encouraging further ratifications as soon as possible, and welcoming further the Thirtieth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, held from 5 to 9 November 2018 in Quito,

*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,

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<sup>204</sup> See resolution 71/285.

<sup>205</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

<sup>206</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>207</sup> UNEP/OzL.Pro.28/12, annex I.

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 first two sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change after the adoption of the Paris Agreement,<sup>188</sup> including the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties, presided over by the Government of Fiji, in Bonn, Germany, from 6 to 17 November 2017, and the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, hosted by the Government of Morocco in Marrakech from 7 to 18 November 2016;

3. *Also welcomes* the Paris Agreement and its early entry into force, on 4 November 2016, encourages all parties to the Agreement to fully implement the Agreement and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>187</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible, and highlights the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>208</sup> and the Paris Agreement;

4. *Recalls* that the Paris Agreement, in enhancing the implementation of the Convention, 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;

5. *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;

6. *Notes with concern* that the nationally determined contributions presented thus far by the parties to the Paris Agreement are not sufficient to achieve the long-term temperature goal in article 2, paragraph 1 (a), of the Agreement;

7. *Urges* the completion of the Paris Agreement work programme at the twenty-fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and recognizes the importance of the facilitative dialogue of 2018, known as the Talanoa Dialogue, at the twenty-fourth session as an opportunity to take stock of the collective efforts of parties in relation to progress towards the long-term goal referred to in article 4, paragraph 1, of the Agreement and to inform the preparation of nationally determined contributions;

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

9. *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;

10. *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;

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<sup>208</sup> Resolution 70/1.



11. *Acknowledges* the work undertaken under the auspices of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action,<sup>209</sup> and encourages non-party stakeholders to scale up their efforts to address and respond to climate change;
12. *Looks forward* to the climate summit called for by the Secretary-General, to be held in New York in 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change;
13. *Also looks forward* to 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;
14. *Reiterates* the resolve of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its decision 1/CP.19,<sup>210</sup> to accelerate the full implementation of the decisions constituting the agreed outcome pursuant to its decision 1/CP.13<sup>211</sup> and to enhance ambition in the pre-2020 period in order to ensure the highest possible mitigation efforts under the Convention by all parties;
15. *Welcomes* the further acceptance or ratification of the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol<sup>212</sup> by 117 countries, up from 95 countries one year ago, expresses concern that the Doha Amendment has not yet entered into force, and welcomes the efforts of those parties that are already implementing the Doha Amendment prior to its entry into force;
16. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;<sup>213</sup>
17. *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 takes note of the establishment of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, relevant consecutive decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and article 8 of the Paris Agreement;
18. *Notes with appreciation* the hosting by the Government of Poland of the twenty-fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the third part of the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, in Katowice, Poland, from 2 to 14 December 2018;
19. *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, with a view to advancing towards the goal of mainstreaming a gender perspective into climate action;
20. *Recalls* the action plan for integrating sustainable development practices into Secretariat-wide operations and facilities management submitted by the Secretary-General<sup>214</sup> 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-fourth session;

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<sup>209</sup> See [FCCC/CP/2016/10/Add.1](#).

<sup>210</sup> See [FCCC/CP/2013/10/Add.1](#).

<sup>211</sup> See [FCCC/CP/2007/6/Add.1](#).

<sup>212</sup> See [FCCC/KP/CMP/2012/13/Add.1](#).

<sup>213</sup> [A/73/255](#), sect. I.

<sup>214</sup> [A/72/82](#).

21. *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 twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the platform's purpose and functions;<sup>215</sup>

22. *Invites* the secretariat of the Convention to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and decides to include, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind" in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, unless otherwise agreed.

### RESOLUTION 73/233

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/538/Add.5, para. 8)<sup>216</sup>

#### **73/233. Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 72/220 of 20 December 2017, as well as other resolutions relating to the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,<sup>217</sup>

*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, and 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,

*Recalling* that, in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the international community committed to combating desertification, restoring degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and striving to achieve a land degradation-neutral world by 2030,

*Acknowledging* that action to combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and achieve a land degradation-neutral world can deliver multiple benefits and that land degradation neutrality has the potential to act as an accelerator for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and as a catalyst for attracting sustainable development financing and climate finance to implement the Convention,

*Reaffirming* 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,

*Bearing in mind* its resolution 62/195 of 19 December 2007, in which it declared the decade 2010–2020 as the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification, and its resolution 64/201 of 21 December 2009, in which it designated the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those

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<sup>215</sup> FCCC/CP/2017/11/Add.1.

<sup>216</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

<sup>217</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, as the focal point of the Decade, and invited States parties to the Convention, observers and other relevant stakeholders to organize activities to observe the Decade,

*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement,<sup>218</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>219</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Highlighting* the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the scientific findings contained in the special report entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

*Looking forward* to the climate summit called for by the Secretary-General, to be held in New York in 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change,

*Welcoming* the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030,<sup>220</sup> and acknowledging that all types of forests provide essential ecosystem services, such as timber, food, fuel, fodder, non-wood products and shelter, as well as soil and water conservation and clean air, that the sustainable management of forests and trees outside forests is vital to the integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and that all forests prevent land degradation and desertification and reduce the risk of floods, landslides and avalanches, droughts, sand and dust storms and other disasters,

*Taking note* of the *Assessment Report on Land Degradation and Restoration*<sup>221</sup> of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, which reaffirms the global dimension of land degradation and reconfirms the economic sense of urgent and concerted action and investment in avoiding land degradation and restoring degraded lands,

*Noting* that combating desertification, land degradation and drought, including through sustainable land management, can contribute to easing forced migration flows influenced by a number of factors, including economic, social, security and environmental concerns, which can, in turn, reduce current and potential fighting over resources in degraded areas,

*Encouraging* countries to give due consideration to the dissemination, promotion and implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,<sup>222</sup>

*Recognizing* that drought resilience is an important element in the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, as well as of target 15.3 on land degradation neutrality,<sup>223</sup>

*Highlighting* the important role of civil society in the implementation of the Convention and its 2018–2030 Strategic Framework,<sup>224</sup>

*Recognizing* that sand and dust storms can be exacerbated by desertification, land degradation and drought and that sustainable land management in the context of land degradation neutrality, including land management and sustainable water use, can contribute to effective responses to sand and dust storms,

*Welcoming* the fact that 119 States have subscribed to the voluntary land degradation neutrality target-setting programme under the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,

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<sup>218</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>219</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>220</sup> See resolution [71/285](#).

<sup>221</sup> Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (Bonn, Germany, 2018).

<sup>222</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document CL 144/9 (C 2013/20), appendix D.

<sup>223</sup> See resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>224</sup> [ICCD/COP\(13\)/21/Add.1](#), decision 7/COP.13, annex.

*Recognizing* the value of knowledge, education, science and new technology to sustainable development and good land management, including making use of, inter alia, the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Soil Management of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, emphasizing the importance of science-based decision-making and that science and technology to combat desertification, land degradation and drought should therefore be further promoted, acknowledging the work of the Science-Policy Interface of the Convention, and welcoming the organization of the technology fair at the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,

*Expressing deep concern* about the continuous trend of land degradation, as reflected in the findings of the *Sustainable Development Goals Report 2018*,<sup>225</sup>

*Reaffirming* the importance of government leadership, multi-stakeholder partnerships and increasing private engagement for the sustainable management, restoration and rehabilitation of ecosystems, biodiversity and land,

*Expressing its appreciation* to the Government of China for hosting the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, held in Ordos, China, from 6 to 16 September 2017,

*Noting with appreciation* the global observance event to mark the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought, held in Quito on 17 June 2018 on the theme “Land has true value. Invest in it”,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution [72/220](#) on the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,<sup>226</sup>

2. *Affirms* that achieving land degradation neutrality would serve as an accelerator and integrator for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and as a catalyst for attracting sustainable development financing and climate finance to implement the Convention, and respond to the overall objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>223</sup>

3. *Encourages* the organizations of the United Nations system, when designing and implementing their programmes and projects, to take into account the role of land degradation neutrality as a potential accelerator of the Sustainable Development Goals;

4. *Invites* Member States to support efforts to implement the strategic objective of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,<sup>217</sup> on drought;

5. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,<sup>227</sup> as well as the launch of the Land Degradation Neutrality Fund, a global impact investment vehicle for projects addressing land degradation, and takes note with appreciation of the launch of the first edition of *Global Land Outlook*,<sup>228</sup> which provides, among other things, an assessment of the state of land globally as well as solutions for the sustainable management of land resources to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;

6. *Takes note with appreciation* of the adoption of the Ordos Declaration at the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention urging countries to step up efforts on all fronts to tackle desertification, land degradation and drought, which are seen as major environmental, economic and social challenges for global sustainable development,<sup>229</sup>

7. *Recognizes* the importance of applying new and innovative technologies, enabling policies and approaches, as well as sharing best practices, in combating desertification, land degradation and drought, and

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<sup>225</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.18.I.6.

<sup>226</sup> [A/73/255](#), sect. II.

<sup>227</sup> [ICCD/COP\(13\)/21/Add.1](#).

<sup>228</sup> Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (Bonn, Germany, 2017).

<sup>229</sup> [ICCD/COP\(13\)/21/Add.1](#), decision 27/COP.13, annex.

requests the Secretary-General to identify those technologies, enabling policies and best practices in his report on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Underlines* the importance of comprehensive reporting, follow-up and review at the global, national and regional levels, as appropriate, in order to track progress in the implementation of the Convention, to ensure that its overall objectives to reverse desertification and mitigate the effects of drought to achieve sustainable development in the affected areas are duly attained;

9. *Takes note*, as appropriate, of the decision of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, at its thirteenth session, to promote the positive role that measures taken to implement the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, can play in addressing desertification, land degradation and drought as one of the drivers that can cause migration, and invites all stakeholders to take note of this when addressing drivers of migration within the ongoing processes;

10. *Underlines* the need to address the economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change, and emphasizes the need for national and international action to enhance efforts to build resilience;

11. *Encourages* the public and private sectors to continue to invest in developing, adapting and scaling up the application of technologies, enabling policies, methods and tools to combat desertification, land degradation and drought in different regions, and to boost knowledge exchange, including of traditional knowledge with the consent of the knowledge holders, capacity-building and sharing of technologies on mutually agreed terms;

12. *Encourages* developed countries party to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, to actively support the efforts of developing countries party to the Convention in promoting sustainable land management practices and in seeking to achieve a land degradation-neutral world by providing substantial financial resources, facilitated access to appropriate technology and other forms of support, including through capacity-building measures;

13. *Welcomes* the adoption of the 2018–2030 Strategic Framework of the Convention, including a new strategic objective on drought, and strongly encourages the parties to the Convention to apply and align with the Strategic Framework in their national policies, programmes, plans and processes relating to desertification, land degradation and drought, including in their national action programmes, as appropriate, and to implement the Strategic Framework, taking into account the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;<sup>230</sup>

14. *Recognizes* that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls remains a crucial contribution to the effective implementation of the Convention, including its 2018–2030 Strategic Framework, and to the achievement of the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, welcomes the adoption of the Gender Action Plan by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its thirteenth session, and calls upon parties to the Convention and partners to pursue the equal participation of women and men in planning, decision-making and implementation at all levels and to further promote gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in desertification, land degradation and drought-related policies and activities as a means to strengthen the effective and efficient implementation of action on the ground;

15. *Invites* multilateral and bilateral partners to support parties to the Convention in the implementation of the 2018–2030 Strategic Framework of the Convention;

16. *Encourages* parties to the Convention to continue to promote the prevention of desertification, land degradation and drought with an integrated landscape approach, including the rehabilitation and restoration of degraded land and sustainable land management;

17. *Calls upon* parties to the Convention to enhance and support the preparation of drought preparedness policies on, inter alia, early warning systems, vulnerability and risk assessment, as well as drought risk mitigation measures;

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<sup>230</sup> Resolution 69/313, annex.

18. *Welcomes* target 15.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals, to combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world,<sup>223</sup> and takes note with appreciation of the voluntary land degradation neutrality target setting programme under the Convention and the work of the secretariat of the Convention and partners to assist States in carrying out voluntary target setting activities, and in this respect invites States that have not yet subscribed to the programme to do so;

19. *Notes with appreciation* the financial contributions that have been made by States and other donors towards the Land Degradation Neutrality Fund, and invites States and other donors to make further contributions;

20. *Invites* more investment aimed at the operationalization of the voluntary land degradation neutrality target setting programme and the Land Degradation Neutrality Fund as an innovative funding scheme to finance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including for the achievement of a land degradation-neutral world;

21. *Recognizes* the benefits gained from cooperation through the sharing of climate and weather information, forecasting and early warning systems related to desertification, land degradation and drought, while also taking account of dust and sand storms, at the global, regional and subregional levels, and in this regard likewise recognizes the need for further cooperation between parties to the Convention and relevant organizations in the sharing of related information, forecasting and early warning systems;

22. *Encourages* the United Nations system to harness opportunities for leveraging synergies among the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>231</sup> the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>219</sup> and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements, as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in this respect welcomes the ongoing efforts to strengthen synergies among the secretariats of the aforementioned conventions;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, the sub-item entitled “Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa”, unless otherwise agreed.

#### RESOLUTION 73/234

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/538/Add.6, para. 11)<sup>232</sup>

#### **73/234. Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 64/203 of 21 December 2009, 65/161 of 20 December 2010, 66/202 of 22 December 2011, 67/212 of 21 December 2012, 68/214 of 20 December 2013, 69/222 of 19 December 2014, 70/207 of 22 December 2015, 71/230 of 21 December 2016 and 72/221 of 20 December 2017 and its previous resolutions relating to the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>233</sup>

*Recalling also* the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992,<sup>234</sup> the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,<sup>235</sup> the Johannesburg

<sup>231</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>232</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

<sup>233</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>234</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annexes I and II.

<sup>235</sup> Resolution S-19/2, annex.



Declaration on Sustainable Development<sup>236</sup> and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)<sup>237</sup> and the outcome document of the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals convened by the President of the General Assembly,<sup>238</sup>

*Reaffirming* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>239</sup> and, inter alia, the commitments concerning biodiversity contained therein,

*Reaffirming also* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development<sup>240</sup> and its principles,

*Reaffirming further* 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* 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,<sup>241</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>242</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Highlighting* the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the findings contained in the special report entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

*Looking forward* to the climate summit called for by the Secretary-General, to be held in New York in 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change,

*Encouraging* parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to integrate ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation and disaster risk reduction into their strategic planning across sectors,

*Recalling* that the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, to be pursued in accordance with its relevant provisions, are the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources, by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding,

*Reaffirming* the intrinsic value of biological diversity, as well as the ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic values of biological diversity, and its critical role in maintaining ecosystems that provide essential services, which are critical foundations for sustainable development and human well-being,

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<sup>236</sup> *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.

<sup>237</sup> *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

<sup>238</sup> Resolution 68/6.

<sup>239</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>240</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>241</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>242</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

*Recognizing* that the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention is crucial for sustainable development, poverty eradication, food security and the improvement of human well-being and a major factor underpinning the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Reaffirming* that, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, States have the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental policies and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction,

*Recalling* that, in its resolution [65/161](#), the General Assembly declared 2011–2020 the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, with a view to contributing to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020,<sup>243</sup>

*Recognizing* that the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities that are relevant to the Convention make a key contribution to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and that their wider application can support social well-being and sustainable livelihoods,

*Taking note* of the decision adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its thirteenth meeting entitled “Article 8 (j) and related provisions”,<sup>244</sup> decision CBD/CP/MOP/VIII/19<sup>245</sup> and decision CBD/NP/MOP/DEC/2/7,<sup>246</sup>

*Recalling* the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples<sup>247</sup> and the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples,<sup>248</sup>

*Recognizing* the vital role that women play in the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and reaffirming the need for the full participation of women at all levels of policymaking and implementation for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity,

*Welcoming* the 2015–2020 Gender Plan of Action under the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>249</sup> which intends to integrate a gender perspective and promote gender equality within the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and its 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets,

*Recognizing* the important role of other biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements, including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,<sup>250</sup> in contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and in ensuring that no species entering into international trade is threatened with extinction,<sup>251</sup> recognizing the economic, social and environmental impacts of poaching and trafficking in wildlife, and noting the contribution of parties to and the secretariat<sup>252</sup> of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, its 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation,

*Recalling* its resolution [71/312](#) of 6 July 2017, in which it endorsed the declaration entitled “Our ocean, our future: call for action” adopted by the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, held from 5 to 9 June 2017, coinciding with World Oceans Day on 8 June, in this regard

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<sup>243</sup> United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex, decision X/2, annex.

<sup>244</sup> United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/25, decision XIII/18.

<sup>245</sup> Adopted by the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at its eighth meeting (see United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/CP/MOP/8/17).

<sup>246</sup> Adopted by the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization at its second meeting (see United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/NP/MOP/2/13).

<sup>247</sup> Resolution [61/295](#), annex.

<sup>248</sup> Resolution [69/2](#).

<sup>249</sup> United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, sect. I, decision XII/7, annex.

<sup>250</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

<sup>251</sup> See resolution Conf. 16.7 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

<sup>252</sup> See resolution Conf. 16.3 (Rev. CoP17), entitled “CITES Strategic Vision: 2008–2020”.

reaffirming the important role of the declaration in demonstrating the collective will to take action to conserve and sustainably use our oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and recognizing the important contributions of the partnership dialogues and voluntary commitments made in the context of that Conference to the effective and timely implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14,

*Recalling also* the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030,<sup>253</sup> and recognizing that forests are home to an estimated 80 per cent of all terrestrial species and that all types of forests contribute substantially to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to the conservation of biodiversity,

*Noting* the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, at its tenth meeting, of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>254</sup> and acknowledging the role of access to genetic resources and equitable benefit-sharing arising from their utilization in contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, poverty eradication and environmental sustainability and, thereby, to the achievement of sustainable development,

*Noting also* that 91 States and 1 regional economic integration organization have signed and that 113 States and 1 regional economic integration organization that are parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity have deposited their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Nagoya Protocol,

*Noting further* the Nagoya Protocol, the objective of which is the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding, thereby contributing to the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components,

*Noting* that 195 States and 1 regional economic integration organization are parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and that 170 States and 1 regional economic integration organization are parties to its Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,<sup>255</sup>

*Noting also* that, with the deposit of the fortieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety<sup>256</sup> entered into force on 5 March 2018,

*Recalling* the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its ninth meeting of the strategy for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention,<sup>257</sup> as well as decision X/3, adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting,<sup>258</sup> on the review of its implementation, and the targets for resource mobilization, under Aichi Target 20 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, adopted by the Conference of the Parties in its decision XII/3,<sup>259</sup>

*Noting* the outcomes of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,<sup>260</sup> the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol<sup>261</sup> and the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol,<sup>262</sup> all held in Cancun, Mexico, in 2016,

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<sup>253</sup> Economic and Social Council resolution 2017/4, annex I.

<sup>254</sup> United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex, decision X/1.

<sup>255</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

<sup>256</sup> See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/5/17, annex, decision BS-V/11.

<sup>257</sup> United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I, decision IX/11.

<sup>258</sup> See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex.

<sup>259</sup> See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, sect. I.

<sup>260</sup> See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/25, sect. I.

<sup>261</sup> See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/CP/MOP/8/17, sect. I.

<sup>262</sup> See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/NP/MOP/2/13, sect. I.

*Reiterating* the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

*Recommitting* to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity;<sup>263</sup>
2. *Looks forward* to the outcomes of the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, which met in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 17 to 29 November 2018, as well as the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, all under the proposed theme “Investing in biodiversity for people and planet”, and recognizes that the outcomes of the meetings will contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>264</sup>
3. *Takes note* with appreciation of the Sharm el-Sheikh Declaration, adopted at the high-level segment of the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;
4. *Welcomes* the initiative of Egypt to promote a coherent approach to addressing biodiversity loss, climate change and land and ecosystem degradation;
5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the commitment made by the parties at the high-level segment of the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, inter alia, to:
  - (a) Accelerating efforts to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020<sup>243</sup> and achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including by implementing the decisions of the Conference of the Parties and the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols, as appropriate, and by providing and mobilizing international and national resources, thereby contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
  - (b) Supporting the development and implementation of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework, building on the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the lessons learned from the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with a level of ambition and practicality that will facilitate the transformational changes needed to achieve the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity, as noted in the conclusions of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice;
  - (c) Promoting, prior to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, voluntary biodiversity contributions by parties and other actors towards achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity;
  - (d) Engaging indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, civil society, local governments and authorities, academia, the business and financial sectors and other relevant stakeholders to support action towards the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity and to provide momentum for the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;
6. *Decides* to convene a summit on biodiversity at the level of Heads of State and Government, within existing resources, before the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, in 2020, in order to highlight the urgency of action at the highest levels in support of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework that contributes to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and places the global community on a path towards realizing the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity;
7. *Looks forward* to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as well as the meetings of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meetings of the Parties to the Protocols to the Convention, which will be held in China in the fourth quarter of 2020, as well as the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the meetings of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meetings of the Parties to the Protocols to the Convention, which will be held in Turkey in the fourth quarter of 2022;
8. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety<sup>256</sup> on 5 March 2018;

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<sup>263</sup> A/73/255, sect. III.

<sup>264</sup> Resolution 70/1.

9. *Also welcomes* the entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>254</sup> on 12 October 2014;

10. *Takes note with appreciation* of the Cancun Declaration on Mainstreaming the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for Well-being, adopted at the high-level segment of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;<sup>265</sup>

11. *Welcomes* the commitment of parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to take specific actions, tailored to national needs and circumstances, and in line with other relevant international agreements, in agriculture, forestry, fisheries and tourism, bearing in mind the impact of these sectors on biodiversity, in various direct and indirect ways;

12. *Recognizes* that integrating biodiversity considerations into sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, plans and programmes at all levels is critical for harnessing the benefits of enhanced synergies and policy coherence;

13. *Encourages* the respective parties, in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to take concrete measures towards achieving the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>233</sup> and the Protocols thereto, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety<sup>255</sup> and the Nagoya Protocol, requests the parties, in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to coherently and efficiently implement the obligations and commitments under the Convention and the Protocols, and in this regard emphasizes the need to comprehensively address at all levels the difficulties that may impede their implementation;

14. *Recognizes* that the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity can significantly contribute to disaster risk reduction and to reducing the adverse impacts of climate change, including by adding resilience to fragile ecosystems and making them less vulnerable;

15. *Urges* the parties to the Convention to facilitate the transfer of technology for the effective implementation of the Convention in accordance with article 16 and other relevant provisions of the Convention, in this regard takes note of the strategy for the practical implementation of the programme of work on technology transfer and scientific and technical cooperation developed by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Technology Transfer and Scientific and Technological Cooperation, as well as of decision XI/2, entitled “Review of progress in implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and related capacity-building support to parties”,<sup>266</sup> and also takes note of the relevant decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting in this regard;<sup>259</sup>

16. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts made by the secretariat of the Convention, parties to the Convention and the Global Environment Facility, as the financial mechanism of the Convention, in conjunction with United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, as well as other entities, in organizing capacity-building workshops to support countries in the updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, with a view to enhancing capacity and addressing the need for human, technical and financial resources to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its tenth meeting, in particular for developing countries;

17. *Recognizes with concern* the limited progress in the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 by the parties to the Convention, and, given the limited time remaining, calls upon all parties to accelerate and scale up efforts to implement them, acknowledging the contribution of such efforts to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

18. *Notes with concern* the limited progress made in mainstreaming article 8 (j) of the Convention and related provisions into various areas of work under the Convention, including capacity development and the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the work of the Convention;

19. *Encourages* parties to promote the mainstreaming of gender considerations, taking into account the 2015–2020 Gender Plan of Action under the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>249</sup> in developing, implementing

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<sup>265</sup> United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/24.

<sup>266</sup> See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/11/35, annex I.

and revising their national and, where appropriate, regional and subnational biodiversity strategies and action plans and equivalent instruments in implementing the three objectives of the Convention, and recognizes the need to enhance cooperation on capacity-building in order to support parties in this process;

20. *Calls upon* Governments and all stakeholders to take appropriate measures to mainstream consideration of the socioeconomic impacts and benefits of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and its components, as well as ecosystems that provide essential services, into relevant programmes and policies at all levels, in accordance with national legislation, circumstances and priorities;

21. *Reaffirms* the importance of continuing to pursue more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention, and calls upon parties and stakeholders to strengthen international cooperation measures for the fulfilment of obligations contained in the Convention;

22. *Highlights* the importance of parties raising high-level political engagement for the achievement by 2020 of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the related Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

23. *Invites* all parties, relevant departments of the Secretariat, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and the regional commissions to continue contributing to the achievement of the objectives of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020;

24. *Reaffirms* the need for a comprehensive and participatory process towards developing proposals for the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, fully in line with decision XIII/1<sup>267</sup> and other relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

25. *Recognizes* that parties to the Convention have reiterated that resources, financial, human and technical, need to be provided and mobilized from all sources, and that this should be balanced with the effective implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, stresses the need for further consideration of the evaluation of all resources mobilized in terms of the biodiversity outcomes achieved, in this regard welcomes the decision of the parties to the Convention on an overall substantial increase in total biodiversity-related funding for the implementation of the Strategic Plan from a variety of sources, including national and international resource mobilization and international cooperation and the exploration of new and innovative financial mechanisms, as appropriate, and takes note of the decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its thirteenth session, including the request to the Executive Secretary to prepare a stocktake and updated analysis of financial reports received in order to provide a more comprehensive picture of the global overall progress towards the global targets;

26. *Invites* countries that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the Convention;

27. *Invites* parties to the Convention to ratify or accede to the Nagoya Protocol, and invites the Executive Secretary of the Convention and the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate as the financial mechanism of the Convention, in collaboration with relevant organizations, to continue to support capacity-building and development activities to support the ratification and implementation of the Protocol;

28. *Also invites* parties to the Convention to consider, as appropriate, ratifying or acceding to the Cartagena Protocol;

29. *Invites* parties to the Cartagena Protocol to consider, as appropriate, ratifying or acceding to the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;

30. *Takes note* of the work done by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8 (j) and Related Provisions, and in this regard invites the secretariat of the Convention, through the Secretary-General, to report on the progress made when reporting on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly;

31. *Stresses* the importance of mainstreaming biodiversity in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as part of national implementation plans for the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular all biodiversity-related Goals and targets;

32. *Takes note* of the outcome of the sixth plenary meeting of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, held in Medellin, Colombia, from 17 to 24 March 2018, which aimed to

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<sup>267</sup> See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/25.



provide policy-relevant information on biodiversity and ecosystem services to assist decision makers, including through its regional and subregional assessments of biodiversity and ecosystem services and its thematic assessment of land degradation and restoration;

33. *Stresses* the importance of the engagement of the private sector and other relevant stakeholders, as well as indigenous peoples and local communities, in the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and in the achievement of the biodiversity targets, invites them to align their practices more explicitly with the objectives of the Convention, including through partnerships, in accordance with national legislation, circumstances and priorities, in this regard stresses the importance of the ongoing work of the Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity, and notes other related and complementary initiatives;

34. *Notes* the ongoing work of the Joint Liaison Group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,<sup>268</sup> and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>242</sup> (the Rio conventions) and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions, acknowledges the importance of improving coherence in the implementation of those conventions, recognizes the importance of enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions, without prejudice to their specific objectives, in this regard notes the contribution of the United Nations Environment Assembly, as reflected in its resolution 2/17 of 27 May 2016,<sup>269</sup> and encourages the conferences of the parties to the biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements to consider strengthening efforts in this regard, taking into account relevant experiences and bearing in mind the respective independent legal status and mandates of those instruments;

35. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-fourth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including on progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and difficulties encountered in the process of their implementation, and decides to include, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, the sub-item entitled “Convention on Biological Diversity” in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, unless otherwise agreed.

## RESOLUTION 73/235

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/538/Add.8, para. 12)<sup>270</sup>

### 73/235. Harmony with Nature

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,<sup>271</sup> Agenda 21,<sup>272</sup> the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,<sup>273</sup> the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development<sup>274</sup> and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),<sup>275</sup>

<sup>268</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

<sup>269</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/71/25)*, annex.

<sup>270</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

<sup>271</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>272</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>273</sup> Resolution S-19/2, annex.

<sup>274</sup> *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.

<sup>275</sup> *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

*Recalling* 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”,<sup>276</sup>

*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,

*Recalling* the 1982 World Charter for Nature,<sup>277</sup>

*Noting* the Peoples’ World Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth, hosted by the Plurinational State of Bolivia in Cochabamba from 20 to 22 April 2010,<sup>278</sup>

*Reaffirming* the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito, Ecuador, from 17 to 20 October 2016,<sup>279</sup>

*Recalling* its resolutions 64/196 of 21 December 2009, 65/164 of 20 December 2010, 66/204 of 22 December 2011, 67/214 of 21 December 2012, 68/216 of 20 December 2013, 69/224 of 19 December 2014, 70/208 of 22 December 2015, 71/232 of 21 December 2016 and 72/223 of 20 December 2017 on Harmony with Nature and its resolution 63/278 of 22 April 2009, by which it designated 22 April as International Mother Earth Day,

*Recalling also* the decision of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its eighteenth session<sup>280</sup> entitled “Agreed outcome pursuant to the Bali Action Plan”, adopted in Doha on 8 December 2012, in which the Conference of the Parties, in section I, paragraph 2, among others, took into account the imperatives of equitable access to sustainable development,

*Recalling further* the interactive dialogue on living in harmony with nature held on the occasion of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Cancun, Mexico, from 4 to 17 December 2016,

*Noting* the first decade since the adoption of the Constitution of Ecuador in Montecristi in 2008, which was the first to have included the rights of nature at the constitutional level, as part of the broader effort to protect and respect nature,

*Noting with appreciation* the interactive dialogue on Harmony with Nature convened by the President of the General Assembly with the overall theme of Earth jurisprudence in the implementation of sustainable consumption and production patterns in harmony with nature, held on 23 April 2018, in commemoration of International Mother Earth Day and to inspire citizens and societies to reconsider how they interact with the natural world in order to implement the Sustainable Development Goals in harmony with nature, and noting that some countries recognize the rights of nature in the context of the promotion of sustainable development,

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<sup>276</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>277</sup> Resolution 37/7, annex.

<sup>278</sup> See A/64/777, annexes I and II.

<sup>279</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

<sup>280</sup> FCCC/CP/2012/8/Add.1, decision 1/CP.18.

*Recognizing* that planet Earth and its ecosystems are our home and that “Mother Earth” is a common expression in a number of countries and regions, noting that some countries recognize the rights of nature in the context of the promotion of sustainable development, and expressing the conviction that, in order to achieve a just balance among the economic, social and environmental needs of present and future generations, it is necessary to promote harmony with nature,

*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement,<sup>281</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>282</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Noting* the importance of ensuring the integrity of all ecosystems, including oceans, and the protection of biodiversity, recognized by some cultures as Mother Earth, and noting also the importance for some of the concept of “climate justice”, when taking action to address climate change,

*Noting also* that, in promoting a holistic approach to achieving sustainable development in harmony with nature, Earth system science plays a significant role,

*Expressing concern* about documented environmental degradation, potentially more frequent and intense natural disasters and the negative impact on nature resulting from human activity, and recognizing the need to strengthen scientific knowledge on the effects of human activities on the Earth systems, with the aim of promoting and ensuring an equitable, balanced and sustainable relationship with the Earth,

*Recognizing* that a number of countries consider Mother Earth the source of all life and nourishment and that these countries consider Mother Earth and humankind to be a living community of interrelated and interdependent beings,

*Noting* that in recent years there have been many initiatives on sustainable development governance, including policy documents on living well in harmony with nature,

*Taking note* of the conceptual framework of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services,<sup>283</sup>

*Noting* the adoption and the opening for signature, at United Nations Headquarters, of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, known as the Escazú Agreement, the first binding agreement of its kind, and encouraging its early entry into force as a contribution to sustainable development,

*Recognizing* that gross domestic product was not designed as an indicator for measuring environmental degradation resulting from human activity, nor is it an indicator of development, and the need to overcome these limitations with regard to sustainable development and the work carried out in this regard,

*Recognizing also* the uneven availability of basic statistical data under the three dimensions of sustainable development and the need to improve their quality and quantity,

*Reaffirming* that fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume are indispensable for achieving global sustainable development and that all countries should promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, with the developed countries taking the lead and with all countries benefiting from the process, taking into account the Rio principles,

*Recognizing* that sustainable production and consumption patterns can contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, including by fostering economic growth, alleviating poverty and creating full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for women and youth, while promoting local culture, protecting the environment, improving the quality of life and promoting rural development and better living conditions for rural populations,

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<sup>281</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>282</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>283</sup> See IPBES/2/17.

*Recognizing also* that many ancient civilizations, indigenous peoples and indigenous cultures have a rich history of understanding the symbiotic connection between human beings and nature that fosters a mutually beneficial relationship,

*Recognizing further* that the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities can support social well-being and sustainable livelihoods and therefore contribute to global efforts and initiatives such as the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Noting* that some countries are discussing the possibility of considering a declaration on the protection of nature,

*Noting also* that, in some countries, both formal and informal educational activities on the rights of Nature or Mother Earth have arisen in the professional and public spheres in the context of the promotion of sustainable development, and encouraging a holistic approach of education and public awareness for sustainable development in its three dimensions,

*Recognizing* the work undertaken by civil society, academia, scientists, local communities and indigenous peoples with regard to signalling the precariousness of life on Earth, as well as their efforts, along with those of Governments and private sector organizations, to devise more sustainable models and methods for production and consumption,

*Noting* the work of the experts of the Harmony with Nature Knowledge Network, who have initiated important activities to support the United Nations with the goal of ensuring that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature, as set out in target 12.8 of the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Considering* that sustainable development is a holistic concept that requires the strengthening of interdisciplinary linkages in the different branches of knowledge,

*Reiterating* the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

*Recommitting* to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature;<sup>284</sup>
2. *Invites* Member States to consider existing studies and, as appropriate, the findings and recommendations of the reports of the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature,<sup>285</sup> of the experts' summary report of the first virtual dialogue of the General Assembly on Harmony with Nature, addressing Earth jurisprudence,<sup>286</sup> and of the interactive dialogues of the Assembly on Harmony with Nature in the promotion of the balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development through harmony with nature;
3. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to convene, at the seventy-third session of the Assembly, an interactive dialogue, to be held at the plenary meetings to be convened during the commemoration of International Mother Earth Day on 22 April 2019, with the participation of Member States, United Nations organizations, independent experts and other relevant stakeholders, to discuss the contributions of harmony with nature in ensuring inclusive, equitable and quality education on taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts and to inspire citizens and societies to reconsider how they interact with the natural world in the context of sustainable development;
4. *Encourages* the experts of the Harmony with Nature Knowledge Network to carry out a study of local and national initiatives on the protection of Mother Earth, as applicable, to be considered by the Secretary-General in his report on the implementation of the present resolution;

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<sup>284</sup> [A/73/221](#).

<sup>285</sup> [A/65/314](#), [A/66/302](#), [A/67/317](#), [A/68/325](#), [A/68/325/Corr.1](#), [A/69/322](#), [A/70/268](#) and [A/72/175](#).

<sup>286</sup> See [A/71/266](#).

#### IV. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Second Committee

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5. *Decides* to continue observing International Mother Earth Day annually on 22 April, requests the Secretary-General to provide continuing support, and encourages Member States to observe the International Day at the national level;

6. *Takes note with appreciation* of the agreement between the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat,<sup>287</sup> invites Member States to contribute to the earmarked activities related to Harmony with Nature under the trust fund of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, aiming, inter alia, at the participation of independent experts in the interactive dialogues of the General Assembly on Harmony with Nature, and invites relevant stakeholders to contribute to the earmarked activities related to Harmony with Nature;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to use the website on Harmony with Nature, managed by the Division for Sustainable Development Goals of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, to gather information and contributions on ideas and activities to promote a holistic approach to sustainable development in harmony with nature and to advance the integration of interdisciplinary scientific work, including success stories on the use of traditional knowledge and on existing national legislation;

8. *Calls for* holistic and integrated approaches to sustainable development, in its three dimensions, that will guide humanity to live in harmony with nature and lead to efforts to restore the health and integrity of the Earth's ecosystems;

9. *Invites* States, as appropriate:

(a) To further build up a knowledge network in order to advance a holistic conceptualization of sustainable development in its three dimensions to identify different economic approaches that reflect the drivers and values of living in harmony with nature, relying on current scientific information to achieve sustainable development, and to facilitate support for and recognition of the fundamental interconnections between humankind and nature;

(b) To promote harmony with the Earth, including as found in indigenous cultures, to learn from those cultures and to support and promote efforts being made from the national level down to the local community level to reflect the protection of nature;

10. *Recognizes* that protecting ecosystems and avoiding harmful practices against animals, plants, microorganisms and non-living environments contributes to the coexistence of humankind in harmony with nature, and invites the Secretary-General to address these issues in his report on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Encourages* all countries to develop and strengthen the quality and quantity of basic national statistical data on the three dimensions of sustainable development, and invites the international community and the pertinent bodies of the United Nations system to assist the efforts of developing countries by providing capacity-building and technical support;

12. *Recognizes* the need for broader measures of progress to complement gross domestic product in order to better inform policy decisions, and in this regard notes the ongoing work of the Statistical Commission on a work programme to develop broader measures of progress and to conduct a technical review of existing efforts in this area;<sup>288</sup>

13. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind, and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Harmony with Nature".

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<sup>287</sup> Available from [www.harmonywithnatureun.org/trustfund.html](http://www.harmonywithnatureun.org/trustfund.html).

<sup>288</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2013, Supplement No. 4 (E/2013/24)*, chap. I, sect. C, decision 44/114.

RESOLUTION 73/236

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/538/Add.9, para. 10)<sup>289</sup>

**73/236. Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/7 of 16 October 1998, 54/215 of 22 December 1999, 55/205 of 20 December 2000, 56/200 of 21 December 2001, 58/210 of 23 December 2003, 60/199 of 22 December 2005, 62/197 of 19 December 2007, 64/206 of 21 December 2009, 66/206 of 22 December 2011, 69/225 of 19 December 2014, 70/201 of 22 December 2015, 71/233 of 21 December 2016 and 72/224 of 20 December 2017, as well as its resolutions 65/151 of 20 December 2010 on the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All and 67/215 of 21 December 2012, in which it decided to declare 2014–2024 the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All,

*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,

*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement<sup>290</sup> and its early entry into force, and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>291</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Looking forward* to the climate summit called for by the Secretary-General, to be held in New York in 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change,

*Highlighting* the synergies between the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement,

*Recalling* its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the 2005 World Summit Outcome<sup>292</sup> and the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,<sup>293</sup>

*Reaffirming* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development<sup>294</sup> and Agenda 21<sup>295</sup> and the principles set out therein, and recalling the recommendations and conclusions contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)<sup>296</sup> and the outcome documents of the

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<sup>289</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

<sup>290</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>291</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>292</sup> Resolution 60/1.

<sup>293</sup> Resolution 65/1.

<sup>294</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>295</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>296</sup> *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 2, annex.



United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>297</sup> the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, entitled “SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway”,<sup>298</sup> the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, entitled “Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024”,<sup>299</sup> and the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, entitled “Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020”,<sup>300</sup>

*Reaffirming also* 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,<sup>301</sup>

*Reaffirming further* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing the need for the creation of an enabling environment at all levels and across all sectors for the achievement of sustainable development,

*Emphasizing* that universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all is an integral part of poverty eradication and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and that the increased use and promotion of new and renewable energy, including in off-grid and decentralized systems, and energy efficiency could make a significant contribution in that regard,

*Deeply concerned* that nearly 2.7 billion people in developing countries, especially in rural areas, rely on traditional biomass, coal and kerosene for cooking and heating, with disproportionate health and workload impacts on women and children, including an estimated 3.8 million deaths annually, that close to 1 billion people are without access to electricity, that Africa accounts for more than half of both access figures and that, even when energy services are available, millions of poor people are unable to pay for them,

*Noting with concern* that energy represents less than 1 per cent of overall United Nations expenditure on the Sustainable Development Goals, despite its critical importance also in achieving other goals,

*Expressing concern* that, at current rates of progress, none of the global energy targets of the Sustainable Development Goals will be achieved by 2030,

*Emphasizing* the critical socioeconomic benefits of affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy and the need to reframe the understanding of energy from a technical unit to a requirement for basic social services, economic development and poverty eradication,

*Highlighting* the importance of the empowerment of developing countries to achieve universal access through the rapid expansion of affordable sustainable energy worldwide,

*Recognizing* that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that this will include the mobilization of financial resources, as well as capacity-building and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed,

*Welcoming* the significant reductions in the cost of renewable energy, the sector’s net positive job contributions and the rapid expansion of renewable energy capacity additions, which are now greater than those of other resources in the electricity sector, and noting that the levelized cost of solar and wind energy in many regions of the world is fully competitive with traditional energy resources,

*Taking note* of the work of multi-stakeholder partnerships, including Sustainable Energy for All, which has given strong momentum to the promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency, the initiatives of the Global Climate Action Agenda, the Small Island Developing States Lighthouses Initiative, SIDS DOCK, the International Partnership

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<sup>297</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>298</sup> Resolution 69/15, annex.

<sup>299</sup> Resolution 69/137, annex II.

<sup>300</sup> *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011 (A/CONF.219/7)*, chap. II.

<sup>301</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

for Energy Efficiency Cooperation and others that can contribute to reaching the objective of ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all,

*Noting with appreciation* the work of the International Renewable Energy Agency, which facilitates the widespread and increased adoption and sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy,

*Noting with appreciation also* that the transformation of the world's energy systems is being accelerated by advances in technology, rapid declines in the cost of renewable energy, the deployment of least-cost decentralized solutions, policy support, new business models and the sharing of best practices, welcoming the establishment of the International Solar Alliance as an international organization, and noting the continuing work of the International Renewable Energy Agency,

*Stressing* the need for a coherent, integrated approach to energy issues and the promotion of synergies across the global energy agenda, with a focus on eradicating poverty and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Reiterating* the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

*Recommitting* to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all,<sup>302</sup>

2. *Also takes note* of the role and activities of the International Renewable Energy Agency, encouraging the Agency to continue to support its members in the achievement of their renewable energy objectives, as well as the contributions of the International Solar Alliance, and encourages its work to collectively address key common challenges to the scaling-up of solar energy;

3. *Strongly encourages* Governments and other relevant stakeholders to take actions to achieve universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy, increase the global share of new and renewable energy, improve the inclusion of developing countries in energy sector cooperation, where relevant, and increase the rate of improvement in energy efficiency for a clean, low-emission, low-carbon, climate-resilient, safe, efficient, modern, affordable and sustainable energy system, given the systemic sustainable development benefits, while taking into consideration the diversity of national situations, priorities, policies, specific needs and challenges and capacities of developing countries, including their energy mix and energy systems;

4. *Calls for* ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, as such services are an integral part of poverty eradication measures, human dignity, quality of life, economic opportunity, the combating of inequality, the promotion of health and the prevention of morbidity and mortality, access to education, safe drinking water and sanitation, food security, disaster risk reduction and resilience, climate change mitigation and adaptation, environmental impact reduction, social inclusion and gender equality, including for persons affected by humanitarian emergencies;

5. *Underscores* the importance of access to cleaner and more efficient and sustainable cooking and heating methods, welcomes ongoing efforts, and in this regard calls for the promotion of an enabling environment at the national and international levels for the increased usage of sustainable, cleaner and more efficient cooking and heating methods in all countries, in particular developing countries;

6. *Encourages* Governments, the United Nations system and relevant stakeholders to leverage the cost-competitiveness of renewable energy, especially in off-grid areas, in order to achieve universal energy access, such as by establishing policy frameworks for metering and payment systems, requiring cost comparisons between grid extension and off-grid solutions, facilitating investment by domestic and foreign banks and educating students, communities, investors and entrepreneurs on renewable energy, energy efficiency and conservation, among other activities, where feasible and appropriate;

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<sup>302</sup> [A/73/267](#).

7. *Calls upon* Governments to expand the use of renewable energy beyond the power sector, taking into account national priorities and constraints, to industry, heating and cooling, construction and infrastructure and, in particular, the transport sector, including through sustainable sector coupling, in the context of sustainable development, including climate change, and calls for supportive policy initiatives and investments at the national and international levels;

8. *Recognizes* that current global progress in improving energy efficiency falls well below the pace necessary to double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency by 2030, and encourages, in accordance with national laws and regulations, the promotion of widespread energy efficiency initiatives in all economic sectors, the adoption and updating of building performance codes and standards, energy efficiency labelling, the promotion of energy management systems, the retrofitting of existing buildings and public procurement policies on energy, among other modalities, as appropriate, as well as the prioritization of smart grid systems, district energy systems and community energy plans to improve synergies among clean and effective use of traditional resources, renewable energy and energy efficiency, which aim to promote the interconnectivity of clean and renewable energy infrastructure and improve energy efficiency;

9. *Calls for* strengthened cooperation at the regional level to promote innovation and facilitate financing, support regional cross-border power grid connectivity, as appropriate, to advance economic integration and sustainable development and share best practices that are responsive to regional needs with regard to Sustainable Development Goal 7<sup>303</sup> and its interlinkages with the other Sustainable Development Goals;

10. *Calls upon* Governments, as well as relevant international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders, to combine, as appropriate, the increased use of new and renewable energy resources, more efficient use of energy, greater reliance on advanced energy technologies, including cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and the sustainable use of traditional energy resources;

11. *Encourages* Governments, relevant international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to promote investments in developing sustainable, inclusive and equitable energy systems, including, inter alia, by strengthening energy systems through cross-border grid connections, as appropriate, and to consider incorporating decentralized renewable energy solutions in energy planning, as appropriate, and recognizes that energy transition will take different paths in different parts of the world;

12. *Also encourages* Governments, relevant international organizations and other relevant stakeholders to use and promote an integrated resource planning and management approach in their energy strategies that considers energy choices in the context of linked sectors, inter alia, water, waste, air quality and food, taking into account national circumstances;

13. *Recognizes* that sustainable energy access and its deployment can be both improved and accelerated by gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, and calls upon Governments, the United Nations development system and other stakeholders to increase educational and capacity-building programmes for women in the sector, further advance equal pay and leadership and other opportunities for women in the energy sector, promote women's full, equal and effective participation and leadership in the design and implementation of energy policies and programmes, mainstream a gender perspective in such policies and programmes and ensure women's full and equal access to and use of sustainable energy to enhance their economic and social empowerment, including employment and other income-generating opportunities;

14. *Encourages* Governments, with the support of relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to accelerate the transition towards sustainable economies, according to national policies and plans, through mitigation and adaptation strategies that improve energy efficiency and create more and better employment opportunities for all, including young people, in wage and self-employment;

15. *Emphasizes* the potential of sustainable energy use to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation, recognizes that increasing the deployment of renewable energy and enhancing energy efficiency are components of many countries' nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,<sup>290</sup> and urges effective and timely support for the full implementation of those contributions, as applicable;

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<sup>303</sup> See resolution 70/1.

16. *Notes* that the impacts of climate change can also threaten access to and the supply of energy, and also notes the importance of increasing the resilience of the energy sector to climate change, which can be facilitated by the expansion of renewable energy;

17. *Emphasizes*, while noting progress, that the large-scale deployment of technologies has been insufficient and uneven and that support is required to realize their potential, along with appropriate policy initiatives and investments at the national and international levels, with Governments working in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, including the private sector;

18. *Also emphasizes* the value of regional and interregional approaches, which can, among other advantages, enhance the deployment of renewable and sustainable energy by facilitating the sharing of experiences, reduce transaction costs, leverage economies of scale, enable greater cross-border interconnectivity to promote energy system reliability and resilience and augment domestic capacity-building, and recognizes the work of organizations and initiatives in that regard;

19. *Invites* all relevant funding institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as regional funding institutions, the private sector and non-governmental organizations, to continue ongoing efforts and take further action to provide financial resources, as appropriate, to support efforts aimed at ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including low-emission, low-carbon and climate-resilient new and renewable resources of energy of demonstrated viability, especially focused on energy access and economic development in both urban and rural areas, while noting the potential catalytic effect of concessional and other finance and taking fully into account the development structure of energy-based economies of developing countries;

20. *Encourages* the development, dissemination, diffusion and transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, and highlights the importance of integrating sustainable energy in the Technology Facilitation Mechanism;

21. *Stresses* the importance of strategies and contributions by Governments and relevant stakeholders to multi-stakeholder partnerships in ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, and encourages coordination and collaboration between the United Nations and relevant multi-stakeholder partnerships, such as Sustainable Energy for All;

22. *Recognizes* the catalytic effect of the sharing of knowledge and experience, capacity-building and technical assistance on sustainable energy deployment, and encourages existing and new efforts to enable Governments from developing countries and relevant stakeholders to plan, finance, implement and monitor sustainable energy projects to further strengthen their national institutions and capacities;

23. *Encourages* the development of viable market-oriented strategies that could result in further rapid reductions in the cost of new and renewable resources of energy and could further increase the competitiveness of those technologies, including through the adoption, as appropriate, of public policies for research, development and market deployment, including rationalizing inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption by removing market distortions, in accordance with national circumstances;

24. *Emphasizes* the value of education, academia, technology and entrepreneurship to develop solutions to face energy challenges and achieve energy sustainability, as well as the importance of investing in research and development in sustainable energy technologies, and also emphasizes in this context the urgent need to enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to upgraded technologies and improved infrastructures for supplying affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all;

25. *Calls for* national efforts to promote access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all and strengthened local engagement to complement current approaches, and reaffirms the commitment to supporting subnational and local efforts, taking advantage of their direct control, where applicable, of local infrastructure and codes to foster uptake in end-use sectors, such as residential, commercial and industrial buildings, industry, agriculture, transport, waste and sanitation;

26. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue efforts to promote the provision of stable, adequate and predictable financial resources and technical assistance for sustainable energy and to enhance the effectiveness, coordination and full utilization of appropriate international funds for the effective implementation of national and

regional high-priority projects for ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, and in this regard invites the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to convene dialogues, which could consist of a series of events, including discussions among energy policymakers and other stakeholders, in 2019, to be supported by the Secretariat, in order to discuss the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All, including the global plan of action for the Decade, as described in the report of the Secretary-General, the summary of the deliberations of which would be incorporated into the report on the implementation of the present resolution;

27. *Encourages* the entities of the United Nations development system, within their respective mandates and taking into account the need to improve coordination among them, in the context of the implementation of resolutions 71/243 of 21 December 2016 and 72/279 of 31 May 2018, to assist countries, in particular at the country level, upon request by their Governments, by explicitly leveraging partnerships with other international organizations, donors and relevant stakeholders, including in their efforts to achieve universal access to sustainable energy and to accelerate its deployment;

28. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

29. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to promote renewable energy, energy efficiency and related sustainable practices in all United Nations facilities and operations around the world, set implementation targets and timelines by the end of 2019, building on and avoiding duplication with existing initiatives, and report on progress, within the most relevant existing reporting frameworks;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including activities carried out to mark the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, the sub-item entitled “Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all”.

#### RESOLUTION 73/237

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/538/Add.10, para. 7)<sup>304</sup>

##### 73/237. Combating sand and dust storms

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 70/195 of 22 December 2015, 71/219 of 21 December 2016 and 72/225 of 20 December 2017 on combating sand and dust storms,

*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,

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<sup>304</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

*Reaffirming further* the Paris Agreement,<sup>305</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>306</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Highlighting* the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the scientific findings contained in the special report entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

*Looking forward* to the climate change summit to be convened by the Secretary-General in 2019 to accelerate global action on climate change,

*Recalling* United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions 1/7 of 27 June 2014 on strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in promoting air quality<sup>307</sup> and 2/21 of 27 May 2016 on sand and dust storms,<sup>308</sup>

*Recalling also* the outcomes of the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, held in Ordos, China, from 6 to 16 September 2017, including decision 31/COP.13 of 15 September 2017 on the Policy Advocacy Framework to combat Sand and Dust Storms,<sup>309</sup>

*Noting* the adoption, by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy-second session, of resolution 72/7 of 19 May 2016 on regional cooperation to combat sand and dust storms in Asia and the Pacific,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, in which it endorsed the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 71/229 of 21 December 2016 and 72/220 of 20 December 2017 on the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,

*Taking note* of the Regional Programme to Combat Sand and Dust Storms of the United Nations Environment Programme, and taking note also of other initiatives, including the ministerial meeting on sand and dust storms held in Nairobi on 21 February 2013 on the margins of the twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme,

*Recalling* the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/283 of 3 June 2015, and recognizing that one of the priorities for action of the Framework is an understanding of disaster risk for prevention and mitigation and for the development and implementation of appropriate preparedness and effective response to disasters, which continue to undermine efforts to achieve sustainable development,

*Acknowledging* that, based on the notion of hazards as defined in the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,<sup>310</sup> addressing multidimensional hazards, including those posed by sand and dust storms, contributes towards the achievement of the goals, targets and priorities for action set out in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,

*Emphasizing* the relevance of the efforts and cooperation of Member States at the regional and international levels to control and reduce the negative impacts of sand and dust storms on human settlements in vulnerable regions, taking note of the initiative of the Islamic Republic of Iran in hosting a regional meeting of environment ministers in

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<sup>305</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>306</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>307</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/69/25)*, annex.

<sup>308</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/71/25)*, annex.

<sup>309</sup> See ICCD/COP(13)/21/Add.1.

<sup>310</sup> A/CONF.206/6 and A/CONF.206/6/Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.



Tehran on 29 September 2010, welcoming the holding of other meetings with the active participation of all countries, and taking note with appreciation of other ongoing initiatives by various countries to combat sand and dust storms, especially at the regional level,

*Stressing* the need for cooperation at the global and regional levels with a view to managing and mitigating the effects of sand and dust storms through the enhancement of early warning systems and the sharing of climate and weather information to forecast sand and dust storms, and affirming that resilient action to combat sand and dust storms requires a better understanding of the severe multidimensional impacts of sand and dust storms, including the deterioration of the health, well-being and livelihood of people, increased desertification and land degradation, deforestation, loss of biodiversity and land productivity, and their impact on sustainable economic growth,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>311</sup>
2. *Recognizes* that sand and dust storms and the unsustainable land management practices, among other factors, that can cause or exacerbate these phenomena, including climate change, pose a serious challenge to the sustainable development of affected countries and regions, also recognizes that, in the past few years, sand and dust storms have inflicted substantial economic, social and environmental damage on the inhabitants of the world's arid, semi-arid and dry subhumid areas, especially in Africa and Asia, and underscores the need to treat them and to promptly take measures to address those challenges;
3. *Welcomes* the convening of a high-level interactive dialogue on sand and dust storms, held at Headquarters in New York on 16 July 2018, bringing together Member States, United Nations entities, regional commissions and other stakeholders to discuss action-oriented recommendations and address the challenges faced by the affected countries, including ways to improve policy coordination at the global level to tackle those challenges in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals, during which the continuing need to confront the multiple challenges presented by sand and dust storms was highlighted;
4. *Acknowledges* the role of the United Nations development system in advancing international cooperation and support to combat sand and dust storms, and invites all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Forum on Forests, the World Meteorological Organization, the World Health Organization, the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and all other related organizations to integrate, in their respective cooperation frameworks, operational programmes, measures and actions aimed at combating sand and dust storms so as to address this problem and contribute to the enhancement of, inter alia, capacity-building at the national level, the implementation of regional and subregional projects, the sharing of information, best practices and experiences and the boosting of technical cooperation in the affected countries and countries of origin, to improve the implementation of sustainable land management practices, to take measures to prevent and control the main factors of sand and dust storms and to improve the development of early warning systems as tools to combat sand and dust storms in accordance with their strategic plans;
5. *Welcomes* the intention of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to establish an inter-agency network involving relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and existing resources, with the aim of enhancing United Nations system-wide cooperation and coordination on the sand and dust storms agenda, and encourages all relevant agencies to continue to work closely to support the network and to ensure a more coherent and consistent approach to tackling sand and dust storm issues at the global, regional and national levels, as appropriate;
6. *Recognizes* the importance of new and innovative technologies and best practices in combating sand and dust storms, as well as their sharing and transfer on mutually agreed terms;
7. *Encourages* regional, subregional and interregional organizations and processes to continue to share best practices, experiences and technical expertise in combating sand and dust storms to address the root causes and impacts of sand and dust storms, including through improved implementation of sustainable land management practices, and to promote regional cooperation in this matter to reduce the risks and impact of future sand and dust

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<sup>311</sup> [A/73/306](#).

storms and to provide affected countries with capacity-building and technical support from the relevant United Nations organizations, such as the World Meteorological Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Organization, within their respective mandates, to this end;

8. *Invites* all affected Member States as well as relevant entities of the United Nations development system, regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to endeavour to meet the objectives set out in the present resolution;

9. *Reaffirms* that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time and, among other factors, is a serious challenge to the sustainable development of all countries, including those affected by sand and dust storms, and emphasizes that, among other factors, climate change is an important potential contributor to future wind erosion and the risk of sand and dust storms, especially the occurrence of more extreme wind events and the movement towards drier climates, although reverse effects are possible;

10. *Recognizes* that sand and dust storms cause numerous human health problems in different regions around the world, especially in arid and semi-arid regions, and that there is a need to reinforce protective strategies to reduce the negative impacts of sand and dust storms on human health, invites the World Health Organization, with the cooperation of other relevant United Nations entities, as appropriate, to support affected countries in combating health problems caused by sand and dust storms, within their respective mandates, welcomes the formation of a working group on sand and dust storms to discuss emerging issues and share information under the Global Platform on Air Quality and Health of the World Health Organization, and also welcomes the finalization of a report on the health effects of sand and dust storms as part of the current update to the World Health Organization air quality guidelines, and the development of standard operating procedures to assess and address the short-term health effects of desert dust by the World Health Organization, in collaboration with experts from the World Meteorological Organization;

11. *Emphasizes* that sand and dust storm issues will constitute important components of the global coalition on health, environment and climate change launched in May 2018 by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization to improve coordination and reduce the 12.6 million deaths each year that are attributed to environmental risks, especially air pollution;

12. *Commends* the United Nations Environment Assembly on its commitment to addressing sand and dust storms, and in this regard notes Environment Assembly resolution 2/21 on sand and dust storms, adopted during its second session;<sup>308</sup>

13. *Notes* the convening of the third session of the United Nations Environment Assembly in Nairobi from 4 to 6 December 2017, under the theme “Towards a pollution-free planet”, affirms the importance of addressing sand and dust storms in the context of international efforts against air pollution, and takes note with appreciation of its ministerial declaration;<sup>312</sup>

14. *Welcomes* the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, held in Ordos, China, from 6 to 16 September 2017, notes with appreciation the Ordos Declaration<sup>313</sup> and other relevant outcomes adopted by the parties during the Conference, namely decision 31/COP.13,<sup>309</sup> invites the organizations of the United Nations system to support their implementation, and reaffirms the importance of addressing sand and dust storms under the Convention;

15. *Encourages* the relevant entities of the United Nations, including the World Health Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Meteorological Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, and donors to provide capacity-building and technical assistance for combating sand and dust storms and to support the implementation of the national, regional and global action plans of the affected countries;

16. *Acknowledges* the global assessment of sand and dust storms prepared by the United Nations Environment Programme in collaboration with other relevant United Nations entities, including the World Meteorological Organization and the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, which sets out proposals for consolidated and coordinated technical and policy options for responding to sand and dust storms;

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<sup>312</sup> UNEP/EA.3/HLS.1.

<sup>313</sup> ICCD/COP(13)/21/Add.1, decision 27/COP.13, annex.

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, the sub-item entitled “Combating sand and dust storms”, unless otherwise agreed.

### RESOLUTION 73/238

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/538/Add.11, para. 7)<sup>314</sup>

#### **73/238. The role of the international community in the prevention of the radiation threat in Central Asia**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its resolution 68/218 of 20 December 2013,

*Taking into account* the outcome of the high-level international forum entitled “Uranium Tailings in Central Asia: Local Problems, Regional Consequences, Global Solution”, held in Geneva on 29 June 2009,

*Taking into account also* the outcome of the international conference entitled “Uranium Tailings in Central Asia: Joint Efforts in Risk Reduction”, held in Bishkek on 24 and 25 October 2012, and the subsequent conference held in Bishkek in May 2018,

*Noting* the high-level events dedicated to the dangers associated with the former uranium mining activities in Central Asia, which were initiated by the Government of Kyrgyzstan and the European Union and held in New York on 20 September 2017 and on 27 September 2018 on the margins of the seventy-second and seventy-third sessions of the General Assembly,

*Taking into account* the ongoing efforts of Central Asian States towards the remediation of former uranium facilities in Central Asia,

*Taking into account also* the role of the international donor community in providing support to the Central Asian States in addressing these problems at the bilateral and multilateral levels,

*Taking into account further* the necessity for a strategic and coordinated approach in the preparation and implementation of programmes aimed at solving the problems associated with uranium tailings in Central Asia,

*Taking into account* the efforts made towards the remediation of uranium tailings in Central Asia and the implementation of projects carried out under the international target programme of the Commonwealth of Independent States entitled “Remediation of the territories of States affected by uranium mining industries” and projects of the European Union-led programme on environmental remediation in Central Asia, including on conducting an integrated environmental impact assessment and feasibility studies for the environmental remediation of the uranium legacy sites of Maili-Say, Min-Kush and Shekaftar, Kyrgyzstan, Degmay and Taboshar, Tajikistan, and Chorkesar and Yangiobod, Uzbekistan, as well as promising remediation projects for these sites planned to be implemented and financed within the framework of the Environmental Remediation Account for Central Asia managed by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and noting the holding of a donors’ conference in this connection in London on 8 November 2018,

*Noting* the importance of the Strategic Master Plan for environmental remediation at the sites of former uranium facilities in Central Asia, developed by the Coordination Group for Uranium Legacy Sites of the International Atomic Energy Agency and approved by the competent authorities of the Governments of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan in 2017,<sup>315</sup>

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<sup>314</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Benin, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mongolia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United States of America, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

<sup>315</sup> International Atomic Energy Agency, *Strategic Master Plan: Environmental Remediation of Uranium Legacy Sites in Central Asia* (Vienna, 2017).

*Noting also* that numerous burial sites of uranium waste and other extremely hazardous radioactive processing wastes are located in densely populated areas of the Central Asian countries,

*Noting further* that many tailings ponds are located in seismically active areas close to population centres and the banks of major rivers in the region and are subject to the threat of natural disasters,

*Reaffirming* the human rights to life, to an adequate standard of living and to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, and stressing in this regard the need to mitigate the impact of natural and man-made disasters in the areas around uranium waste burial sites and tailings ponds in order to avoid loss of human life, as well as immediate and long-term negative consequences for human health,

*Noting* the need to inform the public in a timely manner when conducting work on the prevention of the radiation threat in Central Asia,

*Considering* that, despite the efforts made by the States of Central Asia at the national level and despite the support of international programmes and projects to remediate former uranium mines and tailings ponds, a number of States continue to have serious social, economic and environmental problems associated with former uranium mines and tailings ponds,

*Striving* to contribute to strengthening the security and safety of radioactive materials,

*Expressing gratitude* to donor countries, in particular Czechia, Finland, Germany, Japan, Norway, the Russian Federation, Switzerland and the United States of America, and to international and regional organizations and financial institutions, including the United Nations Development Programme, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the European Union, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Eurasian Economic Union, the Global Environment Facility, the World Bank and others, which are providing assistance in addressing the problems of uranium tailings in the Central Asian region,

*Stressing* the need for a coordinated approach in the remediation of former uranium production facilities, particularly in Central Asia, and welcoming the multilateral initiatives undertaken by the international community to pool resources and identify ways of providing assistance to address the problems associated with uranium tailings ponds in the Central Asian region,

*Stressing also* the importance of regional cooperation for successful implementation of environmental remediation in Central Asia in order, inter alia, to increase competence, exchange information and use best practices and lessons learned in the management of radioactively contaminated areas in Central Asia and other regions, including through relevant training programmes, and to use the experience gained, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme and other United Nations programmes and bodies, as well as relevant international organizations, in addressing the human factor involved in preparedness for accidents and emergency situations at uranium legacy sites with potential transboundary effects and mitigating their potential effects,

*Stressing further* the importance of sharing information, good practices and lessons learned in the management of radioactively contaminated areas obtained in the process of overcoming the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and encouraging cooperation to strengthen national expertise in radiation safety and radiation protection, including through relevant training programmes, and the use of experience gained, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme and other United Nations programmes and bodies, as well as relevant international organizations, in addressing the human dimension of preparedness and recovery from nuclear disaster situations,<sup>316</sup>

*Taking into account* that the Governments and populations of the States of Central Asia are aware of the threat of possible natural or man-made disasters and their global consequences for the lives and the health of a large number of people and for the environment,

1. *Notes* the importance of remediating areas affected by former uranium extraction plants;
2. *Recognizes* the need to devise and promote effective programmes and projects for the responsible and safe management of radioactive and toxic waste in Central Asia;

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<sup>316</sup> See [A/68/498](#).

3. *Also recognizes* the role of the international community in the prevention of the radiation threat in Central Asia, and emphasizes the importance of adopting preventive and other measures to resolve the problem of radioactive and toxic waste and to remediate the polluted areas in accordance with the highest safety standards and best global practices;

4. *Notes* the recent initiatives taken to strengthen the preparation and implementation of remediation programmes through the identification of priority areas;

5. *Calls upon* the international community to assist the States of Central Asia in resolving the problems of uranium tailings ponds, and emphasizes the importance of regional cooperation in the following priority areas: improvement of the legislative framework in accordance with international standards; management and maintenance at safe levels of uranium and other radioactive and toxic tailings; remediation of tailings ponds and development and implementation of special programmes and projects to improve the monitoring of their safety; raising of public awareness; adoption of measures to prevent people from gaining access to polluted materials; and implementation of socioeconomic, health and humanitarian measures to enhance the quality and standard of living of the population in regions where tailings ponds are located;

6. *Notes:*

(a) The importance of the Strategic Master Plan developed by the Coordination Group for Uranium Legacy Sites of the International Atomic Energy Agency and approved by the States of Central Asia,<sup>315</sup> which is designed to harmonize projects and demonstrate to the international community the availability of a reliable and jointly developed approach to the implementation of remediation programmes in all of the Central Asian countries and recent initiatives taken to strengthen the preparation and implementation of such programmes on the basis of identified priority areas;

(b) The practical implementation, begun in 2013, of the international target programme of the Commonwealth of Independent States entitled “Remediation of the territories of States affected by uranium mining industries”, which is an integral part of the European Union-led programme on environmental remediation in Central Asia aimed at environmental remediation at seven priority sites in the region, and is in line with the Strategic Master Plan;

(c) The need to develop strategies in order to inform the public and other stakeholders of remediation programmes in all of the States of Central Asia;

7. *Expresses support* for the efforts made by the States of Central Asia in devising and implementing their country programmes, including in mobilizing domestic resources, and encourages the States of the region to hold further bilateral and multilateral negotiations to avert the radiation threat in Central Asia.

#### RESOLUTION 73/239

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/539, para. 15)<sup>317</sup>

#### **73/239. Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions on the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), including its resolutions 32/162 of 19 December 1977, 56/206 of 21 December 2001, 65/165 of 20 December 2010, 66/207 of 22 December 2011, 67/216 of 21 December 2012, 68/239 of 27 December 2013, 69/226 of 19 December 2014, 70/210 of 22 December 2015, 71/235 of 21 December 2016 and 72/226 of 20 December 2017,

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<sup>317</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).



*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,

*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement,<sup>318</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>319</sup> 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 [71/256](#) of 23 December 2016, entitled “New Urban Agenda”, in which it endorsed the New Urban Agenda, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, as contained in the annex to the above-mentioned resolution,

*Reaffirming* its resolution [71/243](#) of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and its general guidelines and principles, as well as its resolution [72/279](#) of 31 May 2018 on 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,

*Reaffirming also* the commitment to urban and rural development that is people-centred, protects the planet and is age- and gender-responsive and to the realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, facilitating living together, ending all forms of discrimination and violence and empowering all individuals and communities while enabling their full and meaningful participation, and reaffirming further the commitment to promoting culture and respect for diversity and equality as key elements in the humanization of our cities and human settlements,

*Reaffirming further* the commitment to promoting the systematic use of multi-stakeholder partnerships in urban development processes, as appropriate, establishing clear and transparent policies, financial and administrative frameworks and procedures, as well as planning guidelines for multi-stakeholder partnerships,

*Reiterating* the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

*Recommitting* to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

*Noting* that the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030<sup>320</sup> can contribute to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda,

*Reaffirming* the role and expertise of UN-Habitat, given its role within the United Nations system as a focal point on sustainable urbanization and human settlements, including in the implementation, follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda, in collaboration with other United Nations system entities,

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<sup>318</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>319</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>320</sup> Resolution [69/283](#), annex II.



*Reiterating* that the implementation of the New Urban Agenda contributes to the implementation and localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in an integrated and coordinated manner at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders,

*Reiterating also* its recognition that, over the years, the responsibilities of UN-Habitat have changed considerably in their scope and complexity,

*Recalling* UN-Habitat Governing Council resolution 26/8 of 12 May 2017, entitled “Promoting the effective implementation, follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda”,<sup>321</sup>

*Recognizing* the role of national, subnational and local governments, as appropriate, and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, throughout the process, including policymaking, planning, design, implementation, operation and maintenance, and monitoring, as well as the financing and timely delivery of services,

*Aware* that the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda requires enabling policy frameworks at, as appropriate, the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels, effective means of implementation, including finance, capacity-building, technology development and transfer, on voluntary and mutually agreed terms, and mutually beneficial partnerships,

*Reaffirming* the importance of accountability, transparency and improved results-based management and further harmonized results-based reporting for increasing the quantity and quality of funding for operational activities, while recognizing the need to ensure an adequate quantity and quality of funding for the operational and normative activities of UN-Habitat, including its core resources, and the need to make funding more predictable, efficient and effective,

*Recognizing* the need to strengthen Member States’ ownership, leadership and oversight of UN-Habitat,

*Affirming* that the focus of the work of UN-Habitat, in line with the New Urban Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, should remain within the framework of 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,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat),<sup>322</sup>

*Reaffirming* the role of the World Urban Forum as an advocacy platform for all stakeholders in the fields of human settlements and sustainable urbanization, based on its non-legislative nature, and expressing its appreciation to the Government of Malaysia and to the city of Kuala Lumpur for hosting the ninth session of the Forum from 7 to 13 February 2018, which was the first session to have a thematic focus on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda adopted at Habitat III,

#### **Governance of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)**

1. *Welcomes* the work of the Open-ended Working Group established by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), pursuant to General Assembly resolution [72/226](#), as well as its report,<sup>323</sup> and endorses its findings and recommendations on changing the governance structure of UN-Habitat;

2. *Decides* to dissolve the UN-Habitat Governing Council as a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and to replace it with the UN-Habitat Assembly, in line with the findings and recommendations of the Open-ended Working Group, also decides that the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly will be held in May 2019, building upon the preparations already carried out for the twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council, and further decides that this shall take effect upon commencement of the first session;

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<sup>321</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/72/8)*, annex.

<sup>322</sup> [A/73/307](#).

<sup>323</sup> [A/73/726](#).

3. *Also decides* that, in 2019, the Executive Board, after the election of its members by the UN-Habitat Assembly, shall meet for its first session in Nairobi for a duration of three days;

4. *Further decides* that the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat shall prepare draft rules of procedure for the UN-Habitat Assembly, to be completed no later than April or May 2019, with a view to their adoption at the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly;

**Ensuring adequate funding and improving information to monitor funding trends**

5. *Decides* that the additional requirements, including those to service the new intergovernmental governance processes of UN-Habitat, should be met by existing structures and by streamlining operations, and encourages Member States to make voluntary contributions for the sustainability and predictability of financial resources;

6. *Invites* Member States, international and bilateral donors and financial institutions to contribute to UN-Habitat through increased voluntary financial contributions, especially non-earmarked contributions, to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, including the urban basic services trust fund and other technical cooperation trust funds, invites Governments and other stakeholders to provide predictable multi-year funding and increased non-earmarked contributions to support the implementation of its mandate, and requests the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to ensure that reporting on funding is transparent and easily accessible to Member States, including through the creation of an online registry that contains relevant financial information;

7. *Invites* all Member States making financial contributions earmarked for the operational activities of UN-Habitat to ensure that such resources are fully aligned with the strategic plan of UN-Habitat and are in accordance with the priorities of Member States benefiting from those contributions;

**Implementation of the New Urban Agenda to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals**

8. *Reaffirms* that, by readdressing the way cities and human settlements are planned, designed, financed, developed, governed and managed, the New Urban Agenda<sup>324</sup> will help to end poverty and hunger in all its forms and dimensions, reduce inequalities, promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in order to fully harness their vital contribution to sustainable development, improve human health and well-being, foster resilience and protect the environment;

9. *Acknowledges* the central role that cities and human settlements can play in sustainable development, and urges UN-Habitat to further support increased participation of governments at all levels and regional organizations in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals relevant to cities and other human settlements, in particular by providing technical assistance aimed at developing the capacity of all levels of governments, especially in developing countries, to plan and implement sustainable urbanization and human settlements programmes and projects;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda at the national, subnational, local, regional and global levels, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national legislation and practices, as well as policies and priorities;

11. *Urges* UN-Habitat to continue to develop innovative methods, approaches and guidelines for data collection, analysis, monitoring and implementation, with the objective of supporting Member States, especially developing countries, when needed, in dealing with emerging urban challenges and opportunities;

12. *Recognizes* the need to ensure that UN-Habitat has appropriate capacity to generate, manage and disseminate its evidence-based urbanization knowledge, based on its normative and operational work, building on existing international instruments, assessments and information networks to raise public awareness of critical, as well as emerging, urbanization issues;

13. *Urges* UN-Habitat to ensure that its normative and operational activities are balanced, that its normative work guides and is integrated into its operational work and that its experiences in the operational field feed into its normative work;

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<sup>324</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

14. *Encourages* UN-Habitat to continue to work closely with other entities of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, as key partners in reaching out to Member States in the regions for the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the urban and human settlements dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>325</sup>

15. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

16. *Encourages* UN-Habitat to continue its collaboration with international development banks and the private sector to ensure coherence of policy support and the alignment of large-scale urban investments with the principles of the New Urban Agenda and to facilitate increased investment in sustainable urbanization, including through, but not limited to, the Multi-Partner Implementation Facility for Sustainable Urban Development, the Green Climate Fund, the Global Environment Facility, the Adaptation Fund and the Climate Investment Funds;

#### Review and implementation

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a special voluntary trust fund for the purpose of assisting developing countries in attending UN-Habitat Assembly and Executive Board sessions, and invites Member States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make financial contributions to the voluntary trust fund;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a progress report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, to be entitled “Follow-up to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)”;

19. *Decides*, for its next consideration of this topic, to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session an item entitled “Follow-up to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)”.

#### RESOLUTION 73/240

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/540/Add.1, para. 7),<sup>326</sup> by a recorded vote of 133 to 48, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Armenia, Equatorial Guinea, Republic of Korea, Tonga, Turkey

<sup>325</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>326</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

**73/240. Towards a New International Economic Order**

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations to promote the economic advancement and social progress of all peoples,

*Recalling* the principles of the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, as set out in resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI), respectively, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth special session, on 1 May 1974,

*Recalling also* its resolutions [63/224](#) of 19 December 2008, [64/209](#) of 21 December 2009, [65/167](#) of 20 December 2010, [67/217](#) of 21 December 2012, [69/227](#) of 19 December 2014 and [71/236](#) of 21 December 2016,

*Reaffirming* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>327</sup>

*Recalling* the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,<sup>328</sup>

*Recalling also* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>329</sup>

*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,

*Recalling* the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including the development goals and objectives contained therein, and recognizing the vital role played by those conferences and summits in shaping a broad development vision and in identifying commonly agreed objectives,

*Stressing* the need to fulfil all financing for development commitments, including those contained in the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>330</sup> the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,<sup>331</sup> the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and other relevant outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits,

*Noting* that there have been systemic challenges to the global economic architecture, demanding a review of global economic governance, calling for the reform of the international financial system and the relevant institutions, broadening and strengthening of the voice and participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making and norm-setting and in global economic governance, recognizing that it is important that the

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<sup>327</sup> Resolution [55/2](#).

<sup>328</sup> Resolution [65/1](#).

<sup>329</sup> Resolution [66/288](#), annex.

<sup>330</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>331</sup> Resolution [63/239](#), annex.

International Monetary Fund continue to be adequately resourced, and supporting and reiterating its commitment to further governance reform at both the Fund and the World Bank to adapt to changes in the global economy,

*Concerned* about the multiple interrelated and mutually exacerbating current global crises, in particular the world financial and economic crisis, volatile energy and commodity prices, the food crisis and the challenges posed by climate change, which have a negative impact on the development prospects of developing countries and threaten to further widen the gap between developed and developing countries, including the technological and income gap, and which could further undermine the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Concerned also*, in this regard, that, although certain regions have made some progress, more than half of the workers in the developing world, about 1.5 billion people, live in vulnerable employment situations, that approximately one in five people in the developing regions live on less than 1.25 United States dollars a day, that 783 million people still live below the international poverty line and that the number of undernourished people has been on the rise since 2014, reaching an estimated 815 million in 2016,

*Concerned further* about recent economic developments in the context of the continued challenges to achieving sustained economic growth, in which persistently high levels of inequality pose a challenge to robust growth and sustainable development, declining private investment in infrastructure highlights the obstacles to bridging the infrastructure financing gap and advancing the long-term financing of sustainable development, emerging debt challenges and vulnerabilities have intensified across developing countries, global exchange rate volatility has intensified and global inflationary trends have diverged, and that the weak prospects for the global economy put at risk vital public investment in education, health and action on climate change, as well as progress in poverty eradication, especially in developing countries,

*Concerned* that billions of the world's citizens continue to live in poverty and are denied a life of dignity and that there are rising inequalities within and among countries and enormous disparities of opportunity, wealth and power,

*Stressing* the lack of strong coordinated international response in dealing with the challenges referred to above, illustrating that the calls made in the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order are still highly relevant,

*Underlining* the need for a more sustainable economic growth and recovery, and recognizing that this goal can be achieved through inclusive multilateralism and the equal participation of all countries, as envisioned, inter alia, in the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

*Recognizing* that innovative and enhanced approaches to financing for development are needed to address the challenges posed by the current global economic situation, poverty and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and stressing that these approaches should neither be a substitute for nor negatively affect the level of traditional sources of development financing, including official development assistance, and that they need to be developed in a spirit of partnership, cooperation and solidarity, bearing in mind the common interests and national priorities of each country,

*Recognizing also* that many relevant aspects of the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order have not been implemented and that, consequently, many developing countries continue to face significant challenges to their development prospects, including vulnerability to external shocks and lack of adequate representation in global economic governance,

*Recognizing further* the role played by regional, subregional and interregional cooperation as well as regional economic integration, based on equality of partnership, in strengthening international cooperation with the objective of facilitating economic coordination and cooperation for development, the achievement of development goals and the sharing of best practices and knowledge,

*Recognizing* that widespread financial deregulation has contributed to larger net capital outflows from developing countries to developed countries,

*Noting with deep concern* the impact of illicit financial flows on the economic, social and political stability and development of developing countries,

*Concerned* that excessively expansionary monetary policies and the ensuing competitive currency devaluations pursued by developed countries have an effect equivalent to an across-the-board export subsidy and a generalized increase in import tariffs, which thus nullify or impair existing World Trade Organization market access commitments and further hinder the capacity of developing countries to fulfil their commitments to implement all the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Stressing* the need for policy space to allow for the formulation of national development strategies by developing countries, aimed at bringing prosperity for all,

*Concerned* with the increasing protectionist measures and adoption of inward-looking policies that undermine the multilateral trading system and increase the vulnerabilities of developing countries, and emphasizing the importance of promoting an open world economy and generating greater positive effects of globalization,

*Emphasizing* that multilateralism, including a universal, rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system, is the most appropriate platform of international cooperation for addressing the challenges facing humanity,

*Concerned* about the financial risks associated with ongoing monetary policy adjustments in developed countries, which could induce instability in the international monetary system, leading to exchange rate depreciation and unsustainable levels of external debt in many developing and emerging economies,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>332</sup>
2. *Notes* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>333</sup> the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development<sup>334</sup> and the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>335</sup> carry forward many of the ideas and recommendations of the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order<sup>336</sup> and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order;<sup>337</sup>
3. *Reaffirms* the need to continue working towards a new international economic order based on the principles of equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest, cooperation and solidarity among all States;
4. *Reiterates* that States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;
5. *Reaffirms* that national development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems and strengthened and enhanced global economic governance, as well as by respect for each country's policy space;
6. *Also reaffirms* the need to step up coordination of macroeconomic policies among countries to avoid negative spillover effects, especially in developing countries;
7. *Calls for* the fulfilment of the commitment to pursue policy coherence and an enabling environment for sustainable development at all levels and by all actors and to reinvigorate the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development;
8. *Reaffirms* the recommitment to broadening and strengthening the voice and participation of developing countries, including African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries, as well as countries and peoples under foreign occupation, in

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<sup>332</sup> [A/73/290](#).

<sup>333</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>334</sup> Resolution 69/313, annex.

<sup>335</sup> See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.

<sup>336</sup> Resolution 3201 (S-VI).

<sup>337</sup> Resolution 3202 (S-VI).



international economic decision-making, norm-setting and global economic governance, including the need to make the international financial system and the relevant institutions more responsive to the needs and concerns of developing countries;

9. *Also reaffirms* the necessity to respect the territorial integrity, national sovereignty and political independence of States;

10. *Calls upon* States to strengthen cooperation, including through relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant regional or international forums, to combat illicit financial flows in all their forms;

11. *Reaffirms* that international trade is an engine for development and sustained economic growth, as well as the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, and also reaffirms the critical role that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system can play in stimulating economic growth and development worldwide, thereby benefiting all countries at all stages of development;

12. *Stresses* the need to explore the means and instruments needed to achieve debt sustainability and the measures necessary to reduce the indebtedness of developing countries;

13. *Reiterates* the significance of addressing the constraints on technology transfer to developing countries, including the transfer of sound technology from developed countries to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms;

14. *Decides* to continue considering the international economic situation and its impact on development at its seventy-fifth session, and in that regard requests the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly, under the item entitled “Globalization and interdependence”, an updated overview of the major international economic and policy challenges for equitable and inclusive sustained economic growth and sustainable development and of the role of the United Nations in addressing those issues, as well as possible ways and means to overcome those challenges, bearing in mind the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields and the principles contained therein, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in the light of the relevant principles contained in the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order.

#### RESOLUTION 73/241

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/540/Add.2](#), para. 9),<sup>338</sup> by a recorded vote of 182 to 3, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Hungary, Israel, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Italy, Libya

<sup>338</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

### 73/241. International migration and development

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 58/208 of 23 December 2003, 59/241 of 22 December 2004, 60/227 of 23 December 2005, 61/208 of 20 December 2006, 63/225 of 19 December 2008, 65/170 of 20 December 2010, 67/219 of 21 December 2012, 69/229 of 19 December 2014 and 71/237 of 21 December 2016 on international migration and development, its resolution 68/4 of 3 October 2013, by which it adopted the Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, its resolution 60/206 of 22 December 2005 on the facilitation and reduction of the cost of transfer of migrant remittances, its resolutions 62/156 of 18 December 2007, 64/166 of 18 December 2009, 66/172 of 19 December 2011, 68/179 of 18 December 2013, 69/167 of 18 December 2014 and 70/147 of 17 December 2015 on the protection of migrants and its resolution 62/270 of 20 June 2008 on the Global Forum on Migration and Development, and recalling also chapter X of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development<sup>339</sup> and Commission on Population and Development resolutions 2006/2 of 10 May 2006,<sup>340</sup> 2008/1 of 11 April 2008,<sup>341</sup> 2013/1 of 26 April 2013<sup>342</sup> and 2014/1 of 11 April 2014,<sup>343</sup>

*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,

*Reaffirming further* the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, held at United Nations Headquarters on 19 September 2016,<sup>344</sup>

*Reaffirming* the New Urban Agenda, which was adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,<sup>345</sup> and recognizing the linkages between migration and sustainable urbanization and sustainable urban development,

*Reaffirming also* the Paris Agreement,<sup>346</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>347</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Recalling* the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,<sup>348</sup> and those provisions that are applicable to migrants,

<sup>339</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>340</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5 (E/2006/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

<sup>341</sup> *Ibid.*, 2008, *Supplement No. 5 (E/2008/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

<sup>342</sup> *Ibid.*, 2013, *Supplement No. 5 (E/2013/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

<sup>343</sup> *Ibid.*, 2014, *Supplement No. 5 (E/2014/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

<sup>344</sup> Resolution 71/1.

<sup>345</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

<sup>346</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>347</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>348</sup> Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

*Recalling also* the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held in New York on 3 and 4 October 2013, which addressed constructively the issue of international migration and development and explored the opportunities and the challenges that international migration presents, including the protection of the human rights of migrants and the contribution of migrants to development,

*Recalling further* the Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development adopted on 3 October 2013 on the occasion of the High-level Dialogue,

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>349</sup> recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>350</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>350</sup> the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,<sup>351</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>352</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>353</sup> and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>354</sup> and recalling also the Declaration on the Right to Development,<sup>355</sup>

*Encouraging* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families<sup>356</sup> and to consider acceding to relevant conventions of the International Labour Organization, as appropriate,

*Recalling* the importance of the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, including for migrant workers, the eight fundamental Conventions of that Organization and the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session as a general framework within which each country can formulate policy packages specific to its situation and national priorities in order to promote a job-intensive recovery and sustainable development,

*Recognizing* the valuable contribution of the Global Forum on Migration and Development to addressing the multidimensional nature of international migration and promoting balanced and comprehensive approaches and dialogue on migration and development, and acknowledging that it has proved to be a valuable forum for holding frank and open discussions, including through multi-stakeholder dialogues, and that it has helped to build trust among participating stakeholders through the exchange of experiences and good practices and by virtue of its voluntary, intergovernmental, non-binding and informal character and the engagement of civil society actors as well as the private sector,

*Acknowledging* the important and complex interrelationship between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, recognizing that migration brings benefits and challenges to the global community, and confirming the importance of including the matter in relevant debates and discussions held at the global, regional and national levels, as appropriate, including at the level of the United Nations and other international organizations, in relation to development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>357</sup>
2. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen synergies between international migration and development at all levels, including the global, regional, national and local levels, as appropriate;
3. *Recommits* to ensuring full respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, and supporting countries of origin, transit and destination in the spirit of international cooperation, taking into account national circumstances;

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<sup>349</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>350</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>351</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

<sup>352</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>353</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>354</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>355</sup> Resolution 41/128, annex.

<sup>356</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

<sup>357</sup> A/73/286.

4. *Notes* the convening of the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in Marrakech, Morocco, on 10 and 11 December 2018;
5. *Also notes* that the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration<sup>358</sup> is the first intergovernmentally negotiated outcome, prepared under the auspices of the United Nations, to cover international migration in all its dimensions;
6. *Recognizes* that the High-level Dialogues on International Migration and Development have served as forums to advance discussions on the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development in order to identify appropriate ways and means to maximize its development benefits and minimize its negative impacts;
7. *Notes* that, with the adoption of the Global Compact, the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development shall be repurposed into the International Migration Review Forum, which will serve as the primary intergovernmental global platform for Member States to discuss and share progress on the implementation of all aspects of the Global Compact, including as it relates to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>359</sup> and with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, and that the Forum is to be held every four years, beginning in 2022;
8. *Decides* to convene, in the first half of 2019, a one-day high-level debate on international migration and development, under the auspices of the President of the General Assembly, in lieu of the 2019 High-level Dialogue, to inform the high-level political forum on sustainable development, which will review the Goals and targets relevant to migration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, taking into consideration the outcomes of other processes related to international migration and development;
9. *Welcomes* the decision of the Secretary-General to establish a United Nations network on migration;
10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-fifth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution;
11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “Globalization and interdependence”, the sub-item entitled “International migration and development”.

#### RESOLUTION 73/242

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/541/Add.1, para. 8)<sup>360</sup>

#### 73/242. Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Istanbul Declaration<sup>361</sup> and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,<sup>362</sup> adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011, and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/280 of 17 June 2011, in which the Assembly called upon all the relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the Programme of Action, and recalling also the Political Declaration adopted at 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, and endorsed by the Assembly in its resolution 70/294 of 25 July 2016,

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<sup>358</sup> Resolution 73/195, annex.

<sup>359</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>360</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

<sup>361</sup> *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. I.

<sup>362</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II.

*Reaffirming* the overarching goal of the Istanbul Programme of Action of overcoming the structural challenges faced by the least developed countries to eradicate poverty, achieve the internationally agreed development goals and enable graduation from the least developed country category,

*Reaffirming also* 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 further* 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,<sup>363</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>364</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Highlighting* the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the scientific findings contained in the special report entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,<sup>365</sup>

*Looking forward* to the climate summit called for by the Secretary-General, to be held in New York in 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change,

*Reaffirming* 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,<sup>366</sup> and acknowledging that, in implementing the New Urban Agenda, particular attention should be given to the unique and emerging urban challenges faced by the least developed countries,

*Recalling* the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and its guiding principles,<sup>367</sup> recalling also its promotion of regular disaster preparedness, response and recovery exercises, at the national and local levels, with a view to ensuring a rapid and effective response to disasters and related displacement, including access to essential food and non-food relief supplies, as appropriate to local needs, and acknowledging that its implementation can contribute to achievement of the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,

*Recalling also* its resolution [72/231](#) of 20 December 2017 on the follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

*Recalling further* Economic and Social Council resolution [2018/26](#) of 24 July 2018 on the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,

*Taking note* of the 2018 Ministerial Declaration of the Least Developed Countries,<sup>368</sup>

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<sup>363</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>364</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>365</sup> *Global Warming of 1.5°C* is a special report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on the impact of global warming of 1.5°C 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.

<sup>366</sup> Resolution [71/256](#), annex.

<sup>367</sup> Resolution [69/283](#), annex II.

<sup>368</sup> [A/73/455](#), annex.



*Recalling* its resolutions [59/209](#) of 20 December 2004 and [67/221](#) of 21 December 2012 on a smooth transition for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries,

*Reaffirming* its resolution [71/243](#) of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, as well 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, and emphasizing the importance of their full and timely implementation,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020<sup>369</sup> and on the implementation, effectiveness and added value of smooth transition measures and graduation support;<sup>370</sup>

2. *Calls upon* the least developed countries, their development partners, the United Nations system and all other actors to further strengthen the global partnership for development for the least developed countries in all priority areas of the Istanbul Programme of Action<sup>362</sup> in order to ensure the timely, effective and full implementation of the Programme of Action during the remainder of the decade, in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>371</sup> the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>372</sup> which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, the Paris Agreement<sup>363</sup> adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,<sup>364</sup> the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030<sup>367</sup> and the New Urban Agenda;<sup>366</sup>

3. *Invites* the private sector, civil society, academia and foundations to contribute to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action in their respective areas of competence, in line with the national priorities of the least developed countries;

4. *Recalls* the agreement contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that effective linkages will be made with the follow-up and review arrangements of all relevant United Nations conferences and processes, including on the least developed countries, underlines the importance of strong synergy in the implementation of the recently adopted agendas and the Istanbul Programme of Action at all levels, and encourages coordination and coherence in the follow-up of their implementation;

5. *Reaffirms* that the least developed countries, as the most vulnerable group of countries, need enhanced global support to overcome the structural challenges they face in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in this regard calls upon the international community to prioritize and strengthen support from all sources to facilitate the coordinated implementation and coherent follow-up and monitoring of the Istanbul Programme of Action, the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda in the least developed countries;

6. *Recognizes* that significant additional domestic public and private resources, including at the subnational level, supplemented by international assistance and foreign direct investment, as appropriate, will be critical for the realization of sustainable development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda acknowledge the centrality of domestic resource mobilization, underscored by the principle of national ownership;

7. *Also recognizes* that, while the least developed countries have made considerable efforts to mobilize domestic resources and attract private investment, further progress is needed;

8. *Welcomes* the reversal in the decline of official development assistance to the least developed countries in 2017, while expressing its concern that bilateral official development assistance to the least developed countries remains far from the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income committed by many developed countries, as set out in the Istanbul Programme of Action and reaffirmed in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and expressing its appreciation to those few countries that have met or surpassed their commitments to 0.7 per cent of gross national

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<sup>369</sup> [A/73/80-E/2018/58](#).

<sup>370</sup> [A/73/291](#).

<sup>371</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>372</sup> Resolution [69/313](#), annex.



income for official development assistance to developing countries and the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries, urges all others to step up efforts to increase their official development assistance and to make additional concrete efforts towards the official development assistance targets, reiterates that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments remains crucial, calls upon official development assistance providers to fulfil their respective official development assistance commitments to the least developed countries, and encourages official development assistance providers to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.2 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries, while reiterating that an important use of international public finance, including official development assistance, is to catalyse additional resource mobilization from other sources, public and private;

9. *Is encouraged* by those countries which are allocating at least 50 per cent of their official development assistance to the least developed countries;

10. *Welcomes* continued efforts to improve the quality, impact and effectiveness of development cooperation and other international efforts in public finance, including adherence to agreed development cooperation effectiveness principles;

11. *Calls upon* the developing countries, guided by the spirit of solidarity and consistent with their capabilities, to provide support for the effective implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action in mutually agreed areas of cooperation within the framework of South-South cooperation, which is a complement to but not a substitute for North-South cooperation;

12. *Notes* that exports of goods and services of the least developed countries increased by 13 per cent in 2017 after three years of continued negative growth, expresses its concern that the share of goods and services exports, which stood at 0.9 per cent in 2017, remains far from the target of 2 per cent of global exports called for in the Istanbul Programme of Action and target 17.11 of the Sustainable Development Goals, and calls upon the least developed countries and their development partners to take the measures necessary to further accelerate the progress, with a view to achieving the targets of the Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda;

13. *Urges* the least developed countries and their development partners to make use of existing initiatives and programmes, such as the relevant ministerial decisions of the World Trade Organization on duty-free and quota-free market access for the least developed countries and on preferential rules of origin for those countries, as well as aid for trade, reiterates its commitment to increase aid-for-trade support, in particular for the least developed countries, strives to allocate an increasing proportion of aid for trade to the least developed countries, in accordance with development cooperation effectiveness principles, welcomes additional cooperation among developing countries to that end, and encourages the least developed countries to mainstream trade in their national development plans;

14. *Recognizes* that the least developed countries face significant infrastructure gaps, including in the areas of transport, energy and information and communications technology, and reaffirms the need to promote quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure and to enhance infrastructure connectivity with concrete actions, maximizing synergies in infrastructure planning and development;

15. *Emphasizes* that the acute energy gap faced by the least developed countries is a severe constraint on their structural transformation, and stresses that special attention should be given to the least developed countries, including throughout the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All (2014–2024), with a view to ensuring the realization of the objective of access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all by 2030 and to addressing the infrastructure needs of the least developed countries;

16. *Recognizes* the significant potential of regional economic integration and interconnectivity to promote inclusive growth and sustainable development in the least developed countries, and stresses the need to strengthen regional cooperation to improve connectivity and competitiveness, increase productivity, lower transaction costs and expand markets;

17. *Also recognizes* that maintaining sustainable debt levels is the responsibility of the borrowing countries, while acknowledging that lenders also have a responsibility to lend in such a way that does not undermine a country's debt sustainability, recalls the need to strengthen information-sharing and transparency to make sure that debt sustainability assessments are based on comprehensive, objective and reliable data, encourages Member States to work towards global consensus and best practices on guidelines for debtor and creditor responsibilities in borrowing by and lending to sovereigns, building on existing initiatives, and underlines that the debt sustainability framework

for the least developed countries should systematically take into account their structural constraints and longer-term investment requirements for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

18. *Expresses its deep concern* that a number of least developed countries are in debt distress or at high risk of debt distress<sup>373</sup> and that the ratio of debt service to exports has worsened sharply, rising from 4.1 per cent in 2008 to almost 10 per cent in 2017, underlines the urgent need to address the debt problems of the least developed countries, and stresses the need for the international community to remain vigilant in monitoring the debt situation of the least developed countries and to continue to take effective measures, preferably within existing frameworks, when applicable, to address the debt problem of those countries, including through coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief, debt restructuring and sound debt management, as appropriate, for the multilateral and bilateral debt owed by the least developed countries to creditors, both public and private, reiterates its commitment to work through existing initiatives, such as the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, and reaffirms the importance of transparency in debt management;

19. *Expresses its concern* that foreign direct investment flows to the least developed countries contracted by 17 per cent in 2017 compared with 2016, with continued concentration on extractive and related industries, and underlines the need to take the measures necessary at all levels to further accelerate foreign direct investment in the least developed countries;

20. *Encourages* the least developed countries, in accordance with their national plans and priorities, and with the full support of their development partners, to develop their capacities to track financial transactions, administer taxation and regulate customs and to redouble their efforts to substantially reduce illicit financial flows by 2030, with a view to eventually eliminating them, including by combating tax evasion and corruption through strengthened national regulation, and also encourages the United Nations and other relevant international bodies to help to support these efforts, in accordance with their respective mandates;

21. *Recalls* target 17.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals, in which the General Assembly decided to adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries, and underlines the need for its early implementation, invites the Secretary-General, in his capacity as the Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to retain the issue of investment promotion regimes for the least developed countries in the agenda of the Board, with a view to enhancing the overall effectiveness of the support provided by the United Nations system to increase the flow of foreign direct investment to the least developed countries and the ability of those countries to attract such investment, and in that context takes note of the initiative of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, jointly with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the International Labour Organization, the Enhanced Integrated Framework and the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies, to set up a capacity-development programme for the investment promotion agencies of the least developed countries, and calls for financial support to operationalize this programme;

22. *Welcomes* the operationalization of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries and the inauguration of its headquarters in Gebze, Turkey, which signify the achievement of the first Sustainable Development Goal target, target 17.8, takes note with appreciation of the contributions that Bangladesh, India, Norway and Turkey have made, as well as the pledges made by the Philippines and the Sudan, and invites Member States, as well as international organizations, foundations and the private sector, to provide voluntary financial contributions and technical assistance to the Technology Bank to ensure its effective operation;

23. *Expresses its deep concern* that, owing to significant capacity constraints, the least developed countries are disproportionately affected by the adverse impacts of climate change, including persistent drought and extreme weather events, sea level rise, coastal erosion, salinity intrusion, glacial lake outburst floods, ocean acidification and the rise in frequency, as well as the impact, of natural and human-made disasters, which further threaten food security, health and efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and expresses its concern that women and girls are often disproportionately affected by the impacts of climate change and other environmental issues;

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<sup>373</sup> See International Monetary Fund, Debt Sustainability Analysis: Low-Income Countries.

24. *Recognizes* that disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change and which are increasing in frequency and intensity, significantly impede progress towards sustainable development, and also recognizes the synergies between the implementation of the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, acknowledges the importance of continued support for and international cooperation on adaptation and mitigation efforts and on strengthening resilience, stresses the necessity of adequate and predictable financial resources from a variety of sources, including public and private ones, highlights the specific needs and special circumstances of developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, recognizes that effective disaster risk management contributes to sustainable development, and in this regard underlines the importance of strengthening disaster risk reduction and early warning systems in order to minimize the consequences of disasters;

25. *Underlines* the importance of peaceful and inclusive societies for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and recalls the objectives of the Istanbul Programme of Action of enhancing good governance at all levels by strengthening democratic processes, building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions and the rule of law; increasing efficiency, coherence, transparency and participation; protecting and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms; reducing corruption and curbing illicit financial flows; and strengthening the capacity of the Governments of the least developed countries to play an effective role in their economic and social development;

26. *Recognizes* the importance of developing domestic capital markets in the least developed countries, which can help to channel the growing pool of domestic savings towards productive investments, reaffirms the commitment to enhance international support in developing domestic capital markets in developing countries, in particular in the least developed countries, and reaffirms its commitment to work to strengthen capacity-building in this area, including through regional, interregional and global forums for knowledge-sharing, technical assistance and data-sharing, on mutually agreed terms;

27. *Reaffirms* that achieving gender equality, empowering all women and girls and the full realization of the human rights of all people are essential to achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, and reiterates the need for gender mainstreaming, including targeted actions and investments in the formulation and implementation of all financial, economic, environmental and social policies in the least developed countries;

28. *Recognizes* that particular efforts are needed to ensure that all young people, including girls, enjoy access to lifelong learning opportunities and equal access to quality education at all levels, inclusive of early childhood, primary, secondary and tertiary education, as well as technical and vocational training, notes with concern, in this regard, the lack of progress in closing gender gaps in access to, retention in and completion of secondary education, recognizes the need to continue to provide and encourage, as appropriate, institutes of higher education to allocate places and scholarships for students and trainees from the least developed countries, in particular in the fields of science, technology, business management and economics, and to strengthen support for institutions in relation to gender equality and the empowerment of women at the global, regional and national levels, and recognizes that the least developed countries have the most to gain from sustainable development and utilizing the full skills and talents of their people, including women and girls;

29. *Also recognizes* that increasing participation, empowering civil society, youth and women and strengthening collective action will contribute to the eradication of poverty and the achievement of sustainable development;

30. *Underlines* the need to reduce the vulnerability of the least developed countries to economic, natural and environmental shocks and disasters, as well as climate change, and to enhance their ability to meet these and other challenges by strengthening their resilience, and in this regard stresses that it is important that all countries and other actors work together to further develop and implement concrete measures, on an urgent basis, at the national and international levels so as to build the resilience of the least developed countries to withstand economic shocks and mitigate their adverse effects, to withstand and overcome the adverse effects of climate change, to enhance sustainable growth and protect biodiversity and to withstand natural hazards in order to reduce the risk of disasters, as agreed upon in the Istanbul Programme of Action;

31. *Also underlines* the need to address the economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change, and emphasizes the need for national and international action to enhance efforts to build resilience, especially for the

most vulnerable, including through mainstreaming resilience into investment decision-making, building resilience through sustainable management of ecosystems and value chains and building resilience to reduce the impact and cost of natural disasters;

32. *Further underlines* the importance of improving the coordination and effectiveness of resilience-building initiatives for the least developed countries by leveraging existing measures at the national, regional and global levels to respond to various types of disasters and shocks, as elaborated in the report of the Secretary-General on crisis mitigation and resilience-building for the least developed countries;<sup>374</sup>

33. *Encourages* countries to develop national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020, in accordance with target (e) of the Sendai Framework, recognizes the importance of promoting their alignment and integration with sustainable development and climate change adaptation strategies, recognizes that the development of climate change adaptation and national disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020 is an opportunity to maximize synergies across the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework, and in this regard calls for disaster risk reduction to be considered in the review of and follow-up to the Istanbul Programme of Action;

34. *Reiterates* the call to substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for the implementation of the Sendai Framework by 2030;

35. *Congratulates* those countries that have met the criteria for graduation from least developed country status, notes with appreciation that several least developed countries have expressed their intention to reach the status of graduation by 2020, invites those countries to start the preparations for their graduation and transition strategy, and requests all relevant organizations of the United Nations system, led by the Office of the High Representative, to extend necessary support in this regard, in a coordinated manner;

36. *Acknowledges* that the graduation of a country symbolizes its considerable long-term socioeconomic progress, prevailing over the structural handicaps to socioeconomic development, and that it also presents many challenges for graduated countries, which continue to face vulnerabilities to various shocks and crises;

37. *Invites* the least developed countries and development partners to integrate graduation and smooth transition strategies into their respective national development and aid strategies, as appropriate, including capacity-building and technical assistance to diversify sources of financing;

38. *Notes with appreciation* that some development partners have extended some of the benefits specific to the least developed countries to countries that have graduated, taking into account the challenges they continue to face, and invites all development partners to strengthen their support for graduation and smooth transition so that graduating and recently graduated countries can minimize disruption in their development trajectory;

39. *Invites* countries that are found eligible for graduation to establish a consultative mechanism, in line with General Assembly resolution [67/221](#), to prepare the transition strategy as early as possible, engaging all relevant donors and stakeholders;

40. *Recognizes* that the activities relating to the least developed countries carried out within the Secretariat need to be further coordinated and consolidated in order to ensure the effective monitoring and follow-up of the Istanbul Programme of Action, led by the Office of the High Representative, and to provide well-coordinated support to realizing the goal of enabling half of the least developed countries to meet the criteria for graduation by 2020;

41. *Takes note* of the work of the Inter-Agency Consultative Group for the least developed countries, led by the Office of the High Representative, notes the steps taken by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the High-level Committee on Programmes in supporting the coordination and follow-up of the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action on a system-wide basis, and reiterates its invitation to the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the Chief Executives Board, to include the implementation of the Programme of Action in the agenda of the Board;

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<sup>374</sup> [A/72/270](#).

42. *Recalls* paragraph 157 of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 on holding a Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in order to make a comprehensive appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action and to decide on subsequent action, and decides to convene the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at the highest possible level, including Heads of State and Government, in 2021 for a duration of not more than five working days, with the following mandate:

(a) To undertake a comprehensive appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action by the least developed countries and their development partners, share best practices and lessons learned and identify obstacles and constraints encountered as well as actions and initiatives needed to overcome them;

(b) To identify effective international and domestic policies in the light of the outcome of the appraisal as well as new and emerging challenges and opportunities and the means to address them;

(c) To reaffirm the global commitment to addressing the special needs of the least developed countries made at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework;

(d) To mobilize additional international support measures and action, in addition to domestic resources, in favour of the least developed countries and, in this regard, to formulate and adopt a renewed partnership between the least developed countries and their development partners, including the private sector, civil society and governments at all levels;

43. *Decides* to convene, towards the end of 2020 and/or early in 2021, an intergovernmental preparatory committee, which would hold no more than two meetings of no more than five days each;

44. *Also decides* to take a decision on the organizational aspects, date and venue of the Conference and on the venue, duration and dates of the preparatory committee meetings at its seventy-fourth session;

45. *Further decides* that the meetings of the preparatory committee will be preceded by two regional preparatory meetings, each no longer than three days, one in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa and the other in collaboration with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, in the context of the regular annual session of each Commission, with those regional meetings to be supported by broad-based and inclusive country-level preparations;

46. *Emphasizes* the importance of country-level preparations as a critical input to the preparatory process for the Conference and in the implementation of and follow-up to its outcome, and calls upon the Governments of the least developed countries to submit their reports in a timely manner;

47. *Stresses* that the Conference and the preparatory activities should be carried out within the budget level proposed by the Secretary-General for 2020 and 2021 and should be organized in the most effective and efficient manner possible;

48. *Decides* that the Office of the High Representative will be the focal point for the preparations for the Conference, in accordance with mandates given by the General Assembly in its resolution [56/227](#) of 24 December 2001, to ensure that those preparations are carried out effectively and to mobilize and coordinate the active involvement of the entire United Nations system;

49. *Encourages* the organizations of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the regional commissions, the specialized agencies, the funds and programmes, the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and other relevant international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, to provide necessary support and to contribute actively to the preparatory process and the Conference itself;

50. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, as appropriate, the full involvement of resident coordinators and country teams in the preparations for the Conference, in particular in the country-level and regional preparations;

51. *Strongly encourages* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, major groups and other donors to contribute in a timely manner to the trust fund in support of activities undertaken by the

Office of the High Representative to support the implementation, follow-up and monitoring of the Istanbul Programme of Action and the participation of the representatives from the least developed countries in the high-level political forum on sustainable development of the Economic and Social Council as well as in other relevant forums and the preparatory process of the Conference, and in this regard expresses its appreciation to those countries that have made voluntary contributions to the trust fund;

52. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and the Istanbul Programme of Action, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Groups of countries in special situations”, the sub-item entitled “Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries”;

53. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session a progress report on the implementation, effectiveness and added value of smooth transition measures covering both graduating and recently graduated countries, including new and dedicated support measures to graduated countries in moving forward on their development path and initiatives taken by the United Nations system to support countries during their graduation from the least developed country category.

### RESOLUTION 73/243

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/541/Add.2, para. 9)<sup>375</sup>

#### **73/243. Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Vienna Declaration and 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,<sup>376</sup> at which all relevant stakeholders expressed their commitment to the implementation of the Programme of Action,

*Reaffirming* the overarching goal of the Vienna Programme of Action of addressing the special development needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries arising from their landlockedness, remoteness and geographical constraints in a more coherent manner and thus contributing to an enhanced rate of sustainable and inclusive growth, which can contribute to the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty,

*Recalling* its resolutions 71/239 of 21 December 2016 and 72/232 of 20 December 2017,

*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,

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<sup>375</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

<sup>376</sup> Resolution 69/137, annexes I and II.



*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement<sup>377</sup> and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>378</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Recalling* the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>379</sup> while recognizing that landlocked developing countries face some specific disaster risk challenges, and reiterating the commitment to addressing disaster risk reduction and building resilience to disasters within the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication,

*Reaffirming* the New Urban Agenda,<sup>380</sup> adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, and recognizing the importance of sustainable urban development for landlocked developing countries,

*Welcoming* the holding of the 2018 Global Infrastructure Forum, in Bali, Indonesia, on 13 October 2018, on the theme “Unlocking inclusive, resilient and sustainable technology-driven infrastructure”, and taking note of its outcome,

*Taking note* of the transport infrastructure gap in landlocked developing countries and the need to bring the level of transport infrastructure up to global standards, and in this regard the crucial importance of strong national and international partnerships to bridging the gap,

*Recognizing* the specific needs and special circumstances of developing country parties, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, as provided for in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and its general guidelines and principles, as well as its resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018, and welcoming the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to better position the operational activities for development of the United Nations system to support countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Recognizing* that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness from world markets and high transit costs and risks, continues to impose serious constraints on export earnings, private capital inflow and the domestic resource mobilization of landlocked developing countries and therefore adversely affects their overall growth and socioeconomic development,

*Recalling* the Almaty Declaration<sup>381</sup> and the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,<sup>382</sup> the first programme of action for the landlocked developing countries,

*Acknowledging* the importance of promoting collaboration between landlocked developing countries and transit countries on the basis of common interest, and noting that collaboration efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national priorities, while remaining consistent with international rules and commitments,

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<sup>377</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>378</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>379</sup> Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

<sup>380</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

<sup>381</sup> *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003 (A/CONF.202/3)*, annex II.

<sup>382</sup> *Ibid.*, annex I.

*Recognizing* the need to promote both public and private investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technologies, taking into account the special vulnerabilities and needs of landlocked developing countries,

*Taking note* of the Astana Ministerial Declaration, adopted at the Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries on Trade and Transport, held in Astana on 16 and 17 May 2018, in the context of the midterm review of the Vienna Programme of Action,

*Acknowledging* the need to promote meaningful regional integration to encompass cooperation among countries and the importance of enhancing existing transport infrastructure facilities for the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action,

*Reaffirming* that achieving food security and improving nutrition, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all, achieving inclusive and equitable quality education, achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls, as well as ensuring the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, are important for achieving sustainable development, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Taking note* of the declaration of the annual ministerial meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries, held at United Nations Headquarters on 28 September 2018 on the theme “Revitalizing partnerships to enhance the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

*Recognizing* that the Vienna Programme of Action, which is integral to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, is based on renewed and strengthened partnerships for accompanying landlocked developing countries in harnessing benefits from international trade, structurally transforming their economies and achieving more inclusive and sustainable growth,

*Taking note* of the Livingstone Call for Action for the Accelerated Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, adopted at the high-level follow up meeting to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Livingstone, Zambia, in June 2015,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,<sup>383</sup>

2. *Welcomes* the recognition of the special needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>384</sup> and in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>385</sup> and affirms that their effective implementation, together with the implementation of the six priority areas of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,<sup>386</sup> can drive the social and economic progress of landlocked developing countries and assist in their transformation from landlocked to land-linked countries;

3. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of its resolution [67/290](#) of 9 July 2013, and stresses that the concerns and specific challenges of landlocked developing countries should be given consideration, as appropriate, in the implementation, follow-up and review process of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

4. *Recognizes* that landlocked developing countries face specific challenges in their efforts towards the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and the pursuit of sustainable development, and in this regard underlines the importance of continued international support to complement the efforts of landlocked developing countries;

5. *Also recognizes* that efforts will need to be scaled up and sustained in order to eradicate extreme poverty by 2030 in landlocked developing countries;

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<sup>383</sup> [A/73/297](#).

<sup>384</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>385</sup> Resolution [69/313](#), annex.

<sup>386</sup> Resolution [69/137](#), annex II.

#### IV. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Second Committee

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6. *Invites* the landlocked developing countries, transit countries, their development partners, the United Nations system and all other actors to implement the relevant actions, consistent with national priorities, agreed upon in the Vienna Programme of Action in its six priority areas in a coordinated, coherent and expeditious manner;

7. *Reiterates its invitation* to development partners to provide targeted technical and financial support, as appropriate, towards the implementation of the specific actions listed in the Vienna Programme of Action;

8. *Invites* Member States that have not yet done so to mainstream the Vienna Programme of Action into their national and sectoral development strategies in order to ensure its effective implementation, and encourages development partners, the United Nations system and the relevant international and regional organizations to continue to provide technical support, within their respective mandates, to the landlocked developing countries in their efforts to mainstream the Vienna Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development into their national development strategies;

9. *Encourages* landlocked developing countries that have not yet done so to mainstream the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development into their national development planning and foster coherence in its implementation with the Vienna Programme of Action;

10. *Stresses* that the harmonization, simplification and standardization of rules and documentation should be promoted, including the full and effective implementation of international conventions on transport and transit and bilateral, subregional and regional agreements, and invites Member States that have not joined the existing conventions to consider the possibility of accession, stresses also that cooperation on fundamental transit policies, laws and regulations between landlocked developing countries and their transit neighbours is crucial for the effective and integrated solution of cross-border trade and transit transport problems, and underlines that this cooperation should be promoted on the basis of the mutual interests of both landlocked developing countries and transit countries;

11. *Recognizes* the importance of addressing the special needs of landlocked developing countries, inter alia, by establishing and promoting efficient transit transport systems, including roads, railroads and inland waterways, that link landlocked developing countries to international markets, reaffirms that the Vienna Programme of Action constitutes a fundamental framework for genuine partnerships between landlocked and transit developing countries and their development partners at the national, bilateral, subregional, regional and global levels, and in this regard highlights the need to establish secure, reliable, efficient, high-quality, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including transit transport systems, renewable energy and information and communications technology, with the support of development partners, multilateral financial and development institutions and regional banks;

12. *Notes* that, despite the continued growth of air passenger and freight transport, landlocked developing countries are still faced with low volumes of freight transported by air, and stresses that air transport is particularly important, as it provides landlocked developing countries with direct access to international markets;

13. *Invites* landlocked developing countries and transit countries to consider ratifying, as appropriate, relevant international trade and transport facilitation conventions;<sup>387</sup>

14. *Underlines* that infrastructure development plays a key role in reducing the cost of development for landlocked developing countries and that the development and maintenance of transit transport infrastructure, information and communications technology and energy infrastructure are crucial for landlocked developing countries in order to reduce high trading costs, improve their competitiveness and become fully integrated into the global market;

15. *Stresses* that the magnitude of the resources required to invest in infrastructure development and maintenance remains a major challenge and requires the forging of international, regional, subregional and bilateral cooperation on infrastructure projects, the allocation of more resources from national budgets, the effective deployment of international development assistance and multilateral financing in the development and maintenance of infrastructure and strengthening of the role of the private sector, and recognizes that both public and private

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<sup>387</sup> Including the Customs Convention on Containers (Geneva, 2 December 1972), the Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Commercial Road Vehicles (Geneva, 18 May 1956), the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (Geneva, 14 November 1975), the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods (Geneva, 21 October 1982) and the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade Facilitation (2013).

investment have key roles to play in infrastructure financing, including through development banks, development finance institutions and tools and mechanisms such as public-private partnerships, blended finance, which combines concessional public finance, non-concessional private finance and expertise from the public and private sector, special purpose vehicles, non-recourse project financing, risk mitigation instruments and pooled funding structures;

16. *Calls upon* the landlocked developing countries and transit countries, in a coordinated manner, to develop and upgrade international transport and transit corridors encompassing all modes of transportation, such as inland waterways, roads, rail networks, ports and pipelines, in order to address the special development needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries;

17. *Underlines* the significance of international transport corridors for reducing trade costs and promoting regional sustainable development, recognizes that joint regional efforts to reduce transit time through corridor facilitation contribute to improving export competitiveness and attracting more business to landlocked developing countries, and invites the international community to provide, within existing resources, support in this regard;

18. *Acknowledges* that impediments to private investment in infrastructure exist on both the supply and the demand side and that insufficient investment is due in part to inadequate infrastructure plans and an insufficient number of well-prepared investable projects, along with private sector incentive structures that are not necessarily appropriate for investing in many long-term projects and risk perceptions of investors, encourages landlocked developing countries to embed resilient and quality infrastructure investment plans into their national sustainable development strategies, while also strengthening their domestic enabling environments, and calls upon the international community to provide technical support to landlocked developing countries to translate plans into concrete project pipelines, as well as support for individual implementable projects, including for feasibility studies, the negotiation of complex contracts and project management;

19. *Encourages* multilateral development banks, including regional banks, in collaboration with other stakeholders, to address gaps in trade, transport and transit-related regional infrastructure, including by completing missing links connecting, inter alia, landlocked developing countries within regional networks;

20. *Invites* the multilateral financial and development institutions to consider how they can best support landlocked developing countries with infrastructure development, including through project financing, planning for operations and maintenance, technical and regulatory advice and project preparation;

21. *Stresses* the importance of universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy services and the need for accelerating sustainable energy for all in landlocked developing countries, including through innovative partnerships;

22. *Underlines* that greater integration of landlocked developing countries into world trade and global as well as regional value chains is vital for increasing their competitiveness and diversification and ensuring their economic development, and invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States to provide assistance, within existing resources, to landlocked developing countries to strengthen their capacity to participate in regional and global value chains;

23. *Recognizes* that services sectors are important enablers of trade in goods and effective participation in international trade and global value chains, that efficient services sectors enhance productivity, reduce the cost of doing business and promote job creation and that landlocked developing countries should be supported so as to increase the share of services in their economies and exports, including through enabling policies;

24. *Stresses* that improved trade facilitation, including through further streamlining and harmonization of customs and transit procedures and formalities and transparent and efficient border management and coordination of agencies involved in border clearance, would help landlocked developing countries to enhance the competitiveness of their export products and services;

25. *Recognizes* the importance of the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade Facilitation in addressing high trade and transit costs, and in this regard calls for its full and timely implementation by all members of the World Trade Organization, calls upon those members that have not yet done so to deposit their instrument of acceptance, where appropriate, as soon as possible, and in this regard urges members and relevant international and

regional organizations to continue to provide and enhance technical and capacity-building assistance, particularly for the effective implementation of the provisions of articles on the release and clearance of goods, border agency cooperation, formalities connected with importation, exportation and transit, freedom of transit and customs cooperation, which are very relevant for landlocked developing countries;

26. *Also recognizes* that the growth in e-commerce provides international trade opportunities for landlocked developing countries, including new market opportunities, and encourages development partners to consider assisting landlocked developing countries in developing information and communications technology infrastructure and helping to ensure that appropriate policies and legal and regulatory frameworks are in place to support the development of information and communications technology and close the digital divide;

27. *Stresses* the need to promote meaningful regional integration to encompass cooperation among countries in a broader range of areas than just trade and trade facilitation, including investment, research and development and policies aimed at accelerating regional industrial development and regional connectivity, that this approach is aimed at fostering structural change and economic growth in landlocked developing countries as a goal, and also as a means of collectively linking regions to global markets, that this would enhance competitiveness and help to maximize benefits from globalization and that documentation and the sharing and dissemination of best practices are important to allow cooperating partners to benefit from each other's experience;

28. *Recognizes* that the economies of many landlocked developing countries are still reliant on a few export commodities, which often have low value addition, stresses the need for renewed and strengthened partnerships for development to support landlocked developing countries in diversifying their economic base and enhancing value addition to their exports by entering and moving up global value chains through the development of their productive capacities, including through private sector involvement, and the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, with a view to increasing the competitiveness of the products of landlocked developing countries in export markets, and welcomes the establishment of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda;

29. *Underlines* that, in order for landlocked developing countries to fully utilize their export and trade potential, it is important to undertake measures, consistent with relevant international rules and obligations, that promote structural economic transformation capable of reducing the negative impact of their geographical disadvantages and external shocks, creating jobs and ultimately leading to the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions and inclusive and sustainable growth and development, stresses that each landlocked developing country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and in this regard stresses that the national development efforts of landlocked developing countries need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment;

30. *Emphasizes* that infrastructure, industry and innovation are strongly connected, share the common goal of achieving inclusive and sustainable economic development and contribute to poverty eradication, and recognizes that inclusive and sustainable industrialization that provides open and equal social and economic opportunities for all, including women and girls, is integral to the structural transformation of the economies of all countries, including the landlocked developing countries;

31. *Recognizes* that landlocked developing countries remain highly vulnerable to external economic shocks and to the multiple other challenges faced by the international community;

32. *Also recognizes* that landlocked developing countries are vulnerable to and remain negatively affected by the adverse impacts of climate change, land degradation, desertification, deforestation, floods, including glacial lake outburst floods, and droughts, recognizes the potential benefits of mutually addressing these challenges, and calls upon the international community to continue to support the efforts of landlocked developing countries to address these challenges in an integrated manner, as appropriate;

33. *Underlines* that South-South and triangular cooperation are vital to the landlocked developing countries, especially in the areas of productive capacity-building, infrastructure, energy, science and technology, trade, investment and transit transport cooperation, and in this regard highlights the importance of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation in addressing the needs of countries in special situations;

34. *Notes with appreciation* the inauguration of the International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries as the first-ever intergovernmental entity of the landlocked developing countries, invites the International Think Tank to continue to undertake its role of supporting the development efforts of the landlocked developing

countries, urges those landlocked developing countries that have not yet done so to ratify, at their earliest convenience, the Multilateral Agreement for the Establishment of an International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries, and invites relevant stakeholders to support the International Think Tank;

35. *Recognizes* that landlocked developing countries and their transit country neighbours need to effectively mobilize adequate domestic and external resources for the effective implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, reaffirms that, for all countries, public policies and the mobilization and effective use of domestic resources, underlined by the principle of national ownership, are central to the common pursuit of sustainable development, including the implementation of the Programme of Action, and also recognizes that international public finance plays an important role in complementing those efforts, especially in the poorest and most vulnerable countries with limited domestic resources;

36. *Underlines* the prominent role that foreign direct investment plays in accelerating development and poverty reduction through employment, the transfer of managerial and technological know-how, on mutually agreed terms, and non-debt-creating flows of capital, recognizes the considerable role and potential of private sector involvement in infrastructure development for transport, telecommunications and utilities for landlocked developing countries, encourages Member States to facilitate foreign direct investment flows to landlocked developing countries in this regard, and calls upon landlocked and transit developing countries to promote an enabling environment to attract foreign direct investment and private sector involvement;

37. *Reiterates* that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments remains crucial, with providers of official development assistance reaffirming their respective commitments;

38. *Recognizes* the essential role of the private sector in the development of landlocked developing countries, and in this regard underlines the need to continue promoting the participation of the private sector in achieving sustainable development and the critical importance of mobilizing private resources, including through foreign direct investment, for the development of landlocked developing countries, taking into account the leading role of Member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Vienna Programme of Action;

39. *Invites* developing countries, guided by the spirit of solidarity and consistent with their capabilities, to provide support for the effective implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action in mutually agreed areas of cooperation, within the framework of South-South cooperation, which is a complement to, but not a substitute for, North-South cooperation;

40. *Invites* development partners to effectively implement the Aid for Trade initiative in assisting landlocked developing countries to address their special needs and requirements, including capacity-building for the formulation of trade policies, participation in trade negotiations and the implementation of trade facilitation measures, as well as the diversification of export products;

41. *Calls upon* relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and invites international organizations and relevant regional and subregional organizations, to integrate the Vienna Programme of Action into their programmes of work, as appropriate, within their respective mandates, and to support landlocked and transit developing countries in their implementation of the Programme of Action in a well-coordinated and coherent manner;

42. *Underlines* the importance of increasing the availability and use of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by sex, age, geography, income, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, stresses the need to enhance capacity-building support for developing countries, including landlocked developing countries, for this purpose, and reaffirms the commitment to strengthen the capacity of national statistical offices and data systems to ensure access to high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data;

43. *Recognizes* that it is important for all countries, including landlocked developing countries, to commit to a world in which all women and girls enjoy full gender equality with men and boys and all legal, social and economic barriers to their empowerment and equality have been removed;

44. *Reaffirms* its resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations development system, in which it urged the United Nations development system to enhance its support for, inter alia, the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, and calls upon the entities of the United Nations development system to integrate and mainstream it fully into their operational activities for development;



45. *Also reaffirms* its resolution [72/279](#) on the repositioning of the United Nations development system, in which it agreed on reforms to improve the United Nations system collective support to countries as they implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

46. *Urges* that coherent and effective linkages be made between the implementation, follow-up and review arrangements for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and those of all relevant United Nations conferences and processes, including the Vienna Programme of Action;

47. *Underlines* the importance of the successful implementation of, follow-up to and review of the Vienna Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

48. *Stresses* that, in accordance with the mandate given by the General Assembly, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States should continue to ensure the coordinated follow-up to, effective monitoring of and reporting on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action and undertake advocacy efforts at the national, regional and global levels;

49. *Reaffirms* its decision, in its resolution [72/232](#), to convene, as called for in paragraph 78 of the Vienna Programme of Action, a comprehensive high-level midterm review on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for the Decade 2014–2024, to be held no later than December 2019, that the Office of the High Representative shall coordinate the preparatory process, that all relevant United Nations system organizations, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the regional commissions and other relevant organizations, within their respective mandates and within existing resources, shall be invited to provide support to the review process, that the high-level midterm review shall be preceded by regional preparatory meetings, as appropriate and within existing resources, that the high-level midterm review shall adopt an intergovernmentally negotiated and agreed outcome in the form of a political declaration, that the midterm review and its preparation shall be conducted within existing resources and that all costs relating to the midterm review and its preparation shall be financed through voluntary contributions;

50. *Also reaffirms* that the comprehensive high-level midterm review shall review progress made by the landlocked developing countries, transit countries and development partners in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action and shall be a forum for sharing best practices and lessons learned and identifying obstacles and constraints encountered and actions and initiatives needed to overcome them, as well as new challenges and emerging issues, in order to further accelerate the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action;

51. *Decides* to hold no more than two days of high-level plenary meetings of the General Assembly devoted to the midterm review in early December 2019, to be chaired by the President of the Assembly;

52. *Also decides* to invite the President of the General Assembly to chair the high-level midterm review, requests the President of the Assembly to convene informal consultations, as required, and in the most efficient and effective manner, to finalize its outstanding organizational arrangements, including the dates, and to facilitate the preparation of an outcome document for the midterm review, and in this regard welcomes the appointment by the President of the General Assembly of co-facilitators to lead the informal consultations;

53. *Requests* the Office of the High Representative, in close consultation with the relevant United Nations system organizations, to prepare a draft outline of the outcome document of the midterm review so as to facilitate the intergovernmental consultations, taking into account the outcomes of the regional meetings and the reports of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action;

54. *Encourages* all Member States, in particular landlocked and transit developing countries and donor countries, as well as the United Nations system and international and regional organizations, to participate actively in the midterm review at the highest possible level, and reiterates the critical importance of the full and effective participation of the landlocked developing countries in the high-level midterm review process;

55. *Stresses* the importance of the effective participation of all relevant stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, in the high-level midterm review and its preparatory process;

56. *Decides* that the high-level midterm review and its preparatory process shall be open to participation by all States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies and observers in the General Assembly;

57. *Emphasizes* the importance of country-level preparations as a critical input to the preparatory process for the high-level midterm review and to the implementation of and follow-up to its outcome, and in this context calls upon the landlocked developing countries to undertake their national reviews on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, with a particular focus on progress, obstacles, constraints, actions and measures necessary to further its implementation, in close collaboration with the Office of the High Representative;

58. *Strongly encourages* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, major groups and other donors to contribute in a timely manner to the trust fund in support of activities undertaken by the Office of the High Representative to support the implementation of, follow-up to and monitoring of the Vienna Programme of Action, including the preparations for and organization of the high-level midterm review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action;

59. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a progress report on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for its high-level midterm review, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Groups of countries in special situations”, the sub-item entitled “Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries”, unless otherwise agreed.

#### RESOLUTION 73/244

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/542, para. 21),<sup>388</sup> by a recorded vote of 133 to 48, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Georgia, Turkey

#### 73/244. Eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

*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

<sup>388</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Azerbaijan, and Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

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,

*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement<sup>389</sup> and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>390</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Reaffirming* 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,<sup>391</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution [72/233](#) of 20 December 2017, in which it considered that the theme of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) should be “Accelerating global actions for a world without poverty”, and all other resolutions related to the eradication of poverty,

*Noting with appreciation* the aspirations, embedded in Agenda 2063 of the African Union, to lift huge sections of the population out of poverty, improve incomes and catalyse economic and social transformation, and recognizing the importance of the international community helping African countries to achieve such goals, especially in the rural areas of the African continent,

*Recalling* its declaration, in resolution [47/196](#) of 22 December 1992, of 17 October as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty,

*Noting* that, while considerable progress has been made over the past decade across all areas of development, the pace of progress observed in recent years is insufficient and uneven to fully meet the Sustainable Development Goals and targets by 2030, especially in the area of rural poverty eradication,

*Reaffirming* that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, particularly in Africa, in the least developed countries, in small island developing States and in some middle-income countries, and underlining the importance of accelerating sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, including full, productive employment and decent work for all, with a view to reducing inequalities within and among countries,

*Recognizing* that poverty is a serious impediment to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including those living in rural areas, and that the feminization of poverty persists, emphasizing that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, acknowledging the mutually reinforcing links between the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the eradication of poverty, and stressing the importance of support for countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions,

*Emphasizing* that the implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development depends crucially on the transformation of rural areas, where most of the poor and hungry live,

*Welcoming* the proclamation of 2019–2028 as the United Nations Decade of Family Farming, to raise the profile of the role of family farming<sup>392</sup> in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

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<sup>389</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>390</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>391</sup> Resolution [71/256](#), annex.

<sup>392</sup> Resolution [72/239](#).

*Recognizing* the interlinkages and integrated nature of the Sustainable Development Goals, and reiterating that the eradication of rural poverty and hunger is crucial for the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and that rural development should be pursued through an integrated approach which encompasses economic, social and environmental dimensions, takes into account a gender perspective and consists of mutually reinforcing policies and programmes, and which should be balanced, targeted, situation specific and locally owned, include local synergies and initiatives and be responsive to the needs of rural populations,

*Recalling* that nearly 80 per cent of the extreme poor live in rural areas and work in agriculture, and that devoting resources to the development of rural areas and sustainable agriculture and supporting smallholder farmers, especially women farmers, is key to ending poverty in all its forms and dimensions, by, inter alia, improving the welfare of farmers,

*Expressing its concern* that the extreme poor have limited access to productive resources, basic health, education and social protection services, basic infrastructure such as roads, water and electricity, and off-farm employment opportunities, and are susceptible to the impacts of natural disasters, especially weather-related hazards, including the El Niño phenomenon, and the adverse effects of climate change, and that rural women and girls fare far worse on most development indicators,

*Emphasizing* the importance of enhancing global support for national work on rural development policies and strategies,

1. *Reaffirms* that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, for all people everywhere, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, as well as an overarching objective of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>393</sup> of which the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development<sup>394</sup> is an integral part, supporting and complementing it;

2. *Welcomes* the remarkable progress made since 1990, which has lifted over 1.1 billion people out of extreme poverty, but also expresses its deep concern that the progress in reducing poverty remains uneven, with 1.46 billion people still living in multidimensional poverty, and that this number continues to be significant and unacceptably high, whereas the levels of inequality in income, wealth and opportunities remain high or are increasing in a number of countries, and the non-income dimensions of poverty and deprivation, such as access to quality education or basic health services, and relative poverty remain major concerns;

3. *Recognizes* the importance of promoting socioeconomic development in rural areas as an effective strategy at the global level for the eradication of poverty, including extreme poverty, and therefore underlines the importance of shaping a rural poverty eradication pattern with the concerted efforts of the whole of society to promote socioeconomic development in rural areas;

4. *Also recognizes* the critical role and contribution of rural women, including smallholders and women farmers, and indigenous women and women in local communities, and their traditional knowledge in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty;

5. *Stresses* the importance of taking targeted measures to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, by formulating rural development strategies with clear poverty eradication goals, strengthening national statistical capacity and monitoring systems and implementing nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of employment for pro-poor growth in rural areas, and encourages the United Nations system and development partners to assist countries, upon their request, in mainstreaming employment into investment policy and poverty reduction strategies, including those focused on rural area development, and fostering rapid agricultural productivity growth, especially in developing countries, by increasing investment in agricultural and related rural off-farm activities;

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<sup>393</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>394</sup> Resolution 69/313, annex.

7. *Also recognizes* the need to design, implement and pursue gender-responsive economic and social policies aimed at, inter alia, eradicating poverty, including in rural areas, and combating the feminization of poverty, ensuring the full and equal participation of rural women in the development, implementation and follow-up of development policies and programmes and poverty eradication strategies, supporting increased rural employment and decent work, and promoting the participation of women at all levels and sectors of the rural economy and in diverse on-farm and off-farm economic activities, including sustainable agricultural and fisheries production;

8. *Emphasizes* that, globally, 2 billion people, primarily in rural areas in developing countries, do not have access to formal financial services, and encourages further efforts of the international community to offer affordable ways to access finance for the financially excluded in rural areas;

9. *Also emphasizes* the need to increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, especially in roads, water, sanitation and electricity;

10. *Expresses its commitment* to raising public awareness to promote the eradication of poverty and extreme poverty in all countries, to mobilizing the enthusiasm and creativity of all stakeholders, especially the rural residents living in extreme poverty, to fight against poverty, to promoting their active participation in the design and implementation of programmes and policies which affect them, and to providing quality education for the rural poor, with the aim of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

11. *Stresses* the need to enhance and expand access by developing countries to appropriate technologies that are pro-poor and raise productivity, and underlines the need for measures to increase investment in agriculture, including modern technologies, as well as in natural resources management and capacity-building of the developing countries;

12. *Also stresses* that the achievement of sustainable development and the eradication of poverty also hinge on the ability and readiness of countries to effectively mobilize domestic resources, attract foreign direct investment, fulfil official development assistance commitments and use official development assistance effectively, and facilitate the transfer of technology to developing countries, on mutually agreed terms, and further stresses that the resolution of unsustainable debt situations is critical for heavily indebted poor countries, while remittances have become a significant source of income and finance for receiving economies and their contribution to the achievement of sustainable development;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of addressing the diverse needs of and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing many middle-income countries, and therefore requests the United Nations development system, the international financial institutions, regional organizations and other stakeholders to ensure that these diverse and specific development needs are appropriately considered and addressed, in a tailored fashion, in their relevant strategies and policies, with a view to promoting a coherent and comprehensive approach towards individual countries;

14. *Realizes* that bridging the digital divide will require strong commitment by all relevant stakeholders at the national and international levels, and encourages efforts by all relevant stakeholders, especially United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, in the spirit of win-win cooperation, to assist developing countries in overcoming the digital divide and promoting the use of information and communication technologies to foster economic and social development, particularly in rural areas, with the aim of building a shared future for humankind;

15. *Recognizes* the devastating impact of diseases on societies, and calls for measures by relevant United Nations bodies, in accordance with their respective mandates, and other stakeholders to make good use of their experience and advantages to further help developing countries with the aim of improving rural development planning, including poverty eradication and multisectoral development activities covering economic and social aspects, including the gender perspective;

16. *Reiterates* the urgent need to accelerate the pace of rural poverty eradication, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the status of the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution in order to identify the gaps and challenges faced in rural poverty eradication, especially in developing countries;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", a sub-item entitled "Eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

**RESOLUTION 73/245**

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/542, para. 21)<sup>395</sup>

**73/245. Promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,<sup>396</sup>

*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,

*Recalling* its resolution 71/240 of 21 December 2016, entitled “Promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection”,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 70/193 of 22 December 2015, entitled “International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, 2017”, 70/200 of 22 December 2015, entitled “Global Code of Ethics for Tourism”, and 72/214 of 20 December 2017, entitled “Sustainable tourism and sustainable development in Central America”,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and its general guidelines and principles, as well as its resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018, and welcoming the efforts of the Secretary-General to better position United Nations operational activities for development to support countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Recalling* the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>397</sup> adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, the latter of which, inter alia, highlighted the need to promote and integrate disaster risk management approaches throughout the tourism industry, given the often heavy reliance on tourism as a key economic driver,

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<sup>395</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam and Zambia.

<sup>396</sup> Resolution 60/1.

<sup>397</sup> Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.



*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement<sup>398</sup> and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>399</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Reaffirming* 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,<sup>400</sup>

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>401</sup> the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>402</sup> the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,<sup>403</sup> the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),<sup>404</sup> the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,<sup>405</sup> the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,<sup>406</sup> the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,<sup>407</sup> the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,<sup>408</sup> the report of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>409</sup> the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, entitled “SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway”,<sup>410</sup> and the outcome document of the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,<sup>411</sup>

*Stressing* that poverty is a multifaceted problem that requires a multifaceted and integrated approach in addressing its economic, political, social, environmental and institutional dimensions at all levels,

*Recognizing* that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, is a cross-cutting activity that can contribute to the three dimensions of sustainable development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, including by fostering economic growth, alleviating poverty, creating full and productive employment and decent work for all, accelerating the change to more sustainable consumption and production patterns and promoting the sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources, promoting local culture, improving the quality of life and the economic empowerment of women and young people and promoting rural development and better living conditions for rural populations,

*Welcoming* the efforts of the World Tourism Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to promote ecotourism and sustainable tourism worldwide,

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<sup>398</sup> See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.

<sup>399</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>400</sup> Resolution [71/256](#), annex.

<sup>401</sup> Resolution [55/2](#).

<sup>402</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>403</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>404</sup> *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 2, annex.

<sup>405</sup> Resolution [63/239](#), annex.

<sup>406</sup> Resolution [63/303](#), annex.

<sup>407</sup> Resolution [65/1](#).

<sup>408</sup> Resolution [66/288](#), annex.

<sup>409</sup> United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/11/35.

<sup>410</sup> Resolution [69/15](#), annex.

<sup>411</sup> Resolution [69/137](#), annex II.

*Recognizing* that sustainable consumption and production in tourism is aimed at increasing net welfare gains from economic activities by improving resource use and reducing ecosystem degradation and pollution along the entire tourism value chain, and that a systemic approach and cooperation among actors operating along the value chain, from tourism service providers, to adjacent communities, to tourists, can ensure the sustainability of the sector,

*Recalling* the adoption of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012,<sup>412</sup> welcoming the launching of the sustainable tourism programme of the Framework, and encouraging further implementation through capacity-building projects and initiatives to support sustainable tourism,

*Recalling also* the commitment contained in the Cancun Declaration on Mainstreaming the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for Well-being, adopted at the high-level segment of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Cancun, Mexico, on 2 and 3 December 2016, in which tourism is recognized as an enabling agent of change that can contribute directly to the conservation of sensitive areas and habitats through a variety of activities and by raising awareness of the importance of biodiversity,<sup>413</sup>

*Noting* the initiatives launched and the events organized at the subregional, regional and international levels in the field of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, and sustainable development,

*Welcoming* the adoption of the first African Charter for Sustainable and Responsible Tourism at the meeting of African ministers of tourism held in Marrakech, Morocco, on 10 November 2016 on the sidelines of the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which outlines the way forward for the application of the principles of sustainability and accountability in the tourism sector in Africa,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization transmitted by the Secretary-General of the United Nations;<sup>414</sup>

2. *Recognizes* that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, represents, in many countries, an important driver of sustainable economic growth and decent job creation for all, that it can have a positive impact on income generation and education, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status, and thus on the fight against poverty and hunger, and that it can contribute directly to achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

3. *Also recognizes* the potential of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, to eradicate poverty by improving individual livelihoods in local communities and to generate resources for community development projects;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to optimize the economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits stemming from sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities, in all countries, including African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries;

5. *Also emphasizes* that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, can contribute to sustainable development, in particular to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources, and can improve the well-being of indigenous peoples and local communities;

6. *Recognizes* that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, can improve the well-being of indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and young people, and can create significant opportunities for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and/or the protection of natural areas by encouraging indigenous peoples and local communities in host countries and tourists alike to preserve and respect the natural and cultural heritage;

7. *Notes* that the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization, in his report, invites Member States, international agencies and other relevant organizations to mainstream biodiversity conservation in the tourism sector

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<sup>412</sup> A/CONF.216/5, annex.

<sup>413</sup> United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/24.

<sup>414</sup> A/73/274 and A/73/274/Corr.1.

and in climate change plans and strategies, intertwining economic, social and cultural elements with climate change adaptation approaches and the preservation of relevant ecosystem services;

8. *Encourages* all stakeholders to support, as appropriate, the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in sustainable tourism, including women and young people in all tourism operations, including ecotourism activities, in the light of their expertise and knowledge;

9. *Underlines*, in this regard, the importance of establishing, at the national level, where necessary, appropriate policies, guidelines, institutions and regulations, in accordance with national priorities and legislation, for promoting and supporting sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, and minimizing any potential negative impact;

10. *Invites* Member States to enhance institutional coherence policy that supports funding mechanisms and initiatives for poverty eradication projects, including initiatives from community-based organizations and small private sector entities;

11. *Invites* Governments, international organizations, other relevant institutions and other stakeholders, as appropriate, to encourage and support best practices in relation to the implementation of relevant policies, guidelines and regulations in sustainable tourism, including the ecotourism sector, and to implement and disseminate existing guidelines;

12. *Encourages* Member States to use sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, as a tool to foster sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development and financial inclusion and enable the formalization of the informal sector, the promotion of domestic resource mobilization and environmental protection and the eradication of poverty and hunger, including the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources and the promotion of investment and entrepreneurship in sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, in accordance with their national development policies and legislation, which may include promoting the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, promoting cooperatives and facilitating access to financing through inclusive financial services, including microcredit initiatives for the poor, women and young people, indigenous peoples, older persons, persons with disabilities and local communities in all areas, including rural areas;

13. *Encourages* the development of tourism infrastructure and the promotion of tourism diversification, including through public-private partnerships, as a way to foster job creation for local communities, the preservation of their way of life, culture and heritage and the promotion of the three dimensions of sustainable development, while simultaneously inviting Member States to take measures to protect the environment and the sociocultural heritage of a destination;

14. *Encourages* Governments, the United Nations and the specialized agencies to support the coordination of regional and/or international sustainable tourism development frameworks, as appropriate, in order to assist countries in promoting sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environmental protection;

15. *Underlines* the importance of ensuring responsible resource management, addressing the negative impacts of unbalanced tourism, respecting environmental and sociocultural capacities and conducting an environmental impact assessment that does not present additional cost commitments, in accordance with national legislation, for the development of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism opportunities;

16. *Stresses* the need to ensure the integration of sustainable consumption and production patterns in the tourism sector, including through identifying and adopting tourism-planning approaches aimed at improving efficiency in the use of resources;

17. *Encourages* Member States and other stakeholders to make use of the “Tourism for SDGs platform” launched during the 2018 high-level political forum on sustainable development as a partnership tool aimed at advancing the sustainable development of tourism and its contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals;

18. *Also encourages* Member States and other stakeholders to join the Sustainable Tourism Programme of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns<sup>412</sup> in order to foster the integration of sustainable consumption and production patterns in the tourism sector;

19. *Underlines* the need to foster resilient tourism development to deal with shocks, taking into account the vulnerability of the tourism sector to emergencies, and invites Member States to develop national strategies for rehabilitation after shocks, including through private-public cooperation and the diversification of activities and products;

20. *Stresses* that the cultures, traditions and knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities, in all their aspects, are to be fully considered, respected and promoted, as appropriate, in policy development for sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, and underlines the importance of promoting their participation in decisions that affect them and the need to ensure their free, prior and informed consent in the integration of their knowledge, heritage and values into sustainable tourism, including ecotourism initiatives, as appropriate;

21. *Emphasizes* the need for effective measures, in the context of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism initiatives, to ensure the full empowerment of women, including the equal participation of women and men at all levels and in decision-making processes in all areas;

22. *Also emphasizes* the need for effective measures, in the context of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism initiatives, to help to ensure the equal participation of young people and women, persons with disabilities and older persons at all levels and in decision-making processes in all areas and to promote the effective economic empowerment, including through international cooperation, of women, young people, persons with disabilities and older persons in sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities, mainly through decent job and income creation;

23. *Calls upon* the entities of the United Nations system, in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals, to promote sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, as an instrument that can contribute to achieving those Goals, in particular when it comes to eradicating extreme poverty and ensuring environmental sustainability, and to support the efforts and policies of developing countries in this field;

24. *Invites* Member States and relevant stakeholders to welcome the many opportunities that the new digital transformation of the tourism sector offers and calls upon them, therefore, to foster smart solutions that integrate knowledge from traditional and non-traditional data sources, supporting related capacity-building activities and ensuring the long-term participation of local communities and the overall strengthening of a more holistic, evidence-driven approach to sustainable development in tourism;

25. *Calls upon* the entities of United Nations system to provide support to tourism stakeholders at all levels in their efforts to acquire and utilize the expertise needed for the digital transformation of their businesses and destinations and to support efforts to enhance the available data with georeferenced, spatial components for the generation of more precise and timely information for tourism;

26. *Recognizes* the importance of investment in education and training, focusing on issues specific to tourism, in order to enhance competitiveness, and encourages regional and international institutions to provide adequate support to programmes and projects related to sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, taking into account the economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits of such activities;

27. *Invites* relevant specialized agencies, in particular the World Tourism Organization, United Nations bodies and other organizations, to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, and to assist, as appropriate, in strengthening legislative or policy frameworks for sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, including those for environmental protection and the conservation of natural and cultural heritage;

28. *Invites* relevant specialized agencies, United Nations bodies, other organizations and multilateral financial institutions to provide technical assistance to Governments, upon request and as appropriate, in identifying needs as well as opportunities to improve the contribution of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, to poverty eradication, including through securing wider community benefits from sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities, as a viable and sustainable economic development option;

29. *Encourages* the public and private sectors, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to provide, upon request, assistance for capacity-building, the development of specific guidelines and awareness-raising materials and training for people involved in sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities, such as language training and training in specific skills in tourism services, as well as to develop or strengthen partnerships, especially in protected areas;

30. *Encourages* the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other organizations, within existing mandates and resources, the public and private sectors and other relevant stakeholders to develop awareness-raising materials that target local development, the empowerment of women, indigenous peoples, local communities, youth entrepreneurship and innovation, and the protection of traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions in order to ensure the sustainability of the tourism sector and its contribution to a country's development objectives;

31. *Invites* relevant stakeholders to provide, upon request and as appropriate, technical assistance to assist in building the capacity, including for marketing and product positioning, of local communities, cooperatives and micro, small and medium-sized businesses involved in sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities;

32. *Recognizes* the role of North-South cooperation in promoting sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, as a means to achieve economic growth, reduce inequalities and improve living standards in developing countries, and also recognizes that South-South and triangular cooperation, as complements to North-South cooperation, have the potential to promote sustainable tourism, including ecotourism;

33. *Invites* Governments and other stakeholders to consider joining the framework of the International Network of Sustainable Tourism Observatories of the World Tourism Organization as a way to promote socioeconomic and environmentally sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, and to support better informed sustainable tourism policies around the world, mainly through the identification and dissemination of best practices and enhanced awareness of and capacity-building for sustainability among tourism stakeholders;

34. *Encourages* Governments, international organizations and the tourism sector to improve efforts to regularly measure, as appropriate, the role of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, in order to allow more evidence-based decision-making, replicability and scalability at the local and national levels, especially in the context of other economic activities, and with the use of innovative technologies to address sociocultural and environmental impacts, and stresses the need for capacity-building for developing countries in this regard;

35. *Encourages* improved marketing and communication on sustainable practices for sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, in order to enhance decision-making by consumers regarding their needs, in line with the objective of meeting the Sustainable Development Goals, and to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-fifth session, in collaboration with the World Tourism Organization and other relevant United Nations agencies and programmes, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including recommendations on ways and means to promote sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, as a tool for fighting poverty and promoting sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, taking into account relevant reports prepared by the World Tourism Organization in this field, unless otherwise agreed.

#### RESOLUTION 73/246

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/542/Add.1, para. 9)<sup>415</sup>

#### 73/246. Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 72/233 of 20 December 2017 and all other resolutions related to the eradication of poverty,

*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,

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<sup>415</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the 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,<sup>416</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>417</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Highlighting* the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the scientific findings contained in the special report entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

*Looking forward* to the climate summit called for by the Secretary-General, to be held in New York in 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change,

*Reaffirming* 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,<sup>418</sup>

*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome<sup>419</sup> and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>420</sup>

*Taking note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/37 of 28 July 2011, entitled “Recovering from the world financial and economic crisis: a Global Jobs Pact”, of the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2012 of the Council,<sup>421</sup> which called for increased efforts to enhance coordination at all levels with a view to strengthening national development strategies, investing in productive capacities, helping to start and grow business and promoting opportunities for full and productive employment and decent work for all, and of the integration segment of the 2017 session of the Council, which was convened under the theme “Eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions through promoting sustainable development, expanding opportunities and addressing related challenges”, and taking note of the outcomes of that integration segment, including the notion that poverty eradication and pro-poor principles are among the main goals of national agendas or long-term national strategies, as stated by countries during the 2017 session,

*Recalling* the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development<sup>422</sup> and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,<sup>423</sup>

*Acknowledging*, in this regard, the efforts to implement the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, welcoming the convening of the third Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up in April 2018, recalling its intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations,<sup>424</sup> taking note of the 2018 report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development,<sup>425</sup> noting that progress can be reported in all seven action areas of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, while acknowledging that many implementation gaps remain, and stressing the need for continued substantive deliberation on the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda in the forum as the designated mechanism to follow up on the financing for development outcomes,

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<sup>416</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>417</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>418</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

<sup>419</sup> Resolution 60/1.

<sup>420</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>421</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/67/3/Rev.1)*, chap. IV, sect. F.

<sup>422</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>423</sup> Resolution 63/239, annex.

<sup>424</sup> See E/FFDF/2018/3.

<sup>425</sup> *Financing for Development: Progress and Prospects 2018* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.18.I.5).



*Recalling* its resolution [71/243](#) of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and its resolution [72/279](#) of 31 May 2018 on 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,

*Welcoming* the adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015,<sup>426</sup> and recognizing the links between disaster resilience and poverty eradication,

*Taking note* of the adoption of the Nairobi Maaфикiano on 22 July 2016, during the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Nairobi from 17 to 22 July 2016,<sup>427</sup> reaffirming the role of the Conference as the focal point within the United Nations system for the integrated treatment of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development, and recognizing that trade and development can contribute to the eradication of poverty and that the Conference therefore has a role to play in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,

*Concerned* at the global and multifaceted nature of poverty and inequality, underlining the fact that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and of hunger is an ethical, social, political, environmental and economic imperative of all humankind, and in this regard recognizing that there is a need to better understand and address the multidimensional nature of development and poverty in a multifaceted and integrated approach,

*Reaffirming* that each country faces specific challenges in its pursuit of sustainable development, that the most vulnerable countries and, in particular, African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States deserve special attention, as do countries in situations of conflict and post-conflict countries, and that there are also serious challenges within many middle-income countries,

*Deeply concerned* that poverty acts as a serious impediment to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and that the feminization of poverty persists, stressing the importance of giving women equal rights with men to economic resources, including access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, credit, inheritance, natural resources and appropriate new technology, reaffirming that women play a critical role in development, contribute to structural transformation and are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty and inequalities and that their full, effective and equal participation in decision-making and the economy is vital in order to achieve sustainable development and significantly enhance economic growth and productivity, recognizing that the economic and social losses due to a lack of progress in achieving gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment are significant and that it is therefore critical that our policies and actions are not just gender-responsive but actively seek to advance the goal of gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment, and reaffirming that gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress in realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and are critical factors in the eradication of poverty,

*Recognizing* that, after the latest global financial crisis, the global economy is still facing difficult macroeconomic conditions, low commodity prices, subdued trade growth and volatile capital flows, that, notwithstanding the impact of the financial crisis, financial flows and developing countries' share in world trade have continued to increase, that these advances have contributed towards a substantial reduction in the number of people living in extreme poverty, and that, despite these gains, many countries still face considerable challenges,

*Underlining* that the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027), on the theme “Accelerating global actions for a world without poverty”, will be important for maintaining the momentum generated by the implementation of the Second Decade towards poverty eradication and ensuring that markets work better for people living in poverty,

*Reaffirming* that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, that its adverse impacts undermine the ability of all countries to achieve sustainable development, that increases in global temperature, sea level rise,

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<sup>426</sup> Resolution [69/283](#), annex II.

<sup>427</sup> [TD/519/Add.2](#) and [TD/519/Add.2/Corr.1](#).

ocean acidification and other climate change impacts are seriously affecting coastal areas and low-lying coastal countries, including many least developed countries and small island developing States, and that the survival of many societies and of the biological support systems of the planet is at risk, which further threatens food security and efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and thus requires urgent action to maintain, preserve and sustain the development gains achieved in the past decades,

*Urging* all countries that have not yet done so to ratify and accede to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,<sup>428</sup> encouraging parties to review its implementation, committing to making the Convention an effective instrument to deter, detect, prevent and counter corruption and bribery, prosecute those involved in corrupt activities and recover and return stolen assets to their country of origin, as appropriate, encouraging the international community to develop good practices on asset return, expressing support to the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations and the World Bank and other international initiatives that support the recovery of stolen assets, urging that regional conventions against corruption be updated and ratified, and striving to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for the transfer abroad of stolen assets and illicit financial flows,

*Committed* to working to strengthen regulatory frameworks at all levels to further increase the transparency and accountability of financial institutions and the corporate sector, as well as public administrations, and to strengthening international cooperation and national institutions to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism,

*Reaffirming* that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, particularly in Africa, in least developed countries, in small island developing States, and in some middle-income countries, and underlining the importance of accelerating sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, including full, productive employment and decent work for all, with a view to reducing inequalities within and among countries,

*Recognizing* the importance of supporting countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and to promote the empowerment of the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including women, children and youth, indigenous peoples and local communities, older persons, persons with disabilities, migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons,

*Underlining* the primary responsibility of Member States to promote universal health coverage that comprises universal and equitable access to quality health services and ensures affordable and quality service delivery, especially through primary health care and social protection mechanisms, with the support of enhanced international cooperation and with a view to providing access to health services for all, including those who are vulnerable or marginalized, and underlining also that women and children are particularly affected by disasters and outbreaks,

*Recognizing* the centrality of mobilizing financial and non-financial resources for development at the national and international levels and the effective use of those resources, as well as the importance of policy coherence and a coordinated approach that involves participation at all levels by all actors to promote an enabling environment for sustainable development, and of reinvigorating the global partnership for sustainable development in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which builds upon the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals,

*Underscoring* that, for all countries, public policies and the mobilization and effective use of domestic resources, underscored by the principle of national ownership, are central to the common pursuit of sustainable development, including achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognizing that domestic resources are first and foremost generated by economic growth, supported by an enabling environment at all levels, including well-functioning, efficient and transparent tax systems,

*Reaffirming* the need to promote private and public investment with the aim of ensuring universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all in order to achieve poverty eradication,

*Acknowledging* the important role that multi-stakeholder partnerships, including the private sector, can play in generating new investments, employment and financing for development,

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<sup>428</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

#### IV. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Second Committee

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*Taking into consideration* that official development assistance remains an important source of financing for development in developing countries,

*Acknowledging* that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation, and recognizing the contributions of South-South and triangular cooperation to the efforts of developing countries to eradicate poverty and pursue sustainable development,

*Looking forward* to the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, to be held in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019,

*Emphasizing* the essential role of inclusive and sustainable industrial development as part of a comprehensive strategy of structural economic transformation in eradicating poverty and supporting sustained economic growth and thus in contributing to achieving sustainable development in developing countries,

*Taking note* of the work done under the inter-agency, system-wide plan of action for poverty eradication coordinating the efforts of the United Nations system in its advisory and programmatic support to Member States, involving more than 21 agencies, funds, programmes and regional commissions, and encouraging the alignment of that work with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Reiterating* the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

*Recommitting* to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

*Underlining* the priority and urgency given by Heads of State and Government to the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, as expressed in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>429</sup>

2. *Recognizes* that the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) will complement the ongoing efforts of the international community to implement, as applicable, inter alia, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>430</sup> the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>431</sup> the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,<sup>432</sup> the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>433</sup> the New Urban Agenda,<sup>434</sup> the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development entitled “The future we want”,<sup>435</sup> the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,<sup>436</sup> as well as 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,<sup>437</sup> the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,<sup>438</sup> the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,<sup>439</sup> the declaration entitled “Our ocean, our future: call for action” adopted at the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development,<sup>440</sup> the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030<sup>441</sup> and Agenda 2063 of the African Union, as well as its first 10-year implementation plan and its

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<sup>429</sup> [A/73/298](#).

<sup>430</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>431</sup> Resolution [69/313](#), annex.

<sup>432</sup> *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* ([A/CONF.219/7](#)), chap. II.

<sup>433</sup> Resolution [70/294](#), annex.

<sup>434</sup> Resolution [69/15](#), annex.

<sup>435</sup> Resolution [69/137](#), annex II.

<sup>436</sup> Resolution [71/312](#), annex.

<sup>437</sup> See resolution [71/285](#).

continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme;

3. *Also recognizes* the contribution that the Second Decade has made to poverty eradication, and underlines the importance of drawing lessons from the implementation of the Second Decade and the Millennium Development Goals, in particular with respect to strengthening national statistical capacity and monitoring systems to ensure access to data which are of high quality, accessible, timely, reliable and disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability and geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, harnessing partnerships, fostering the global exchange of ideas and experiences and showcasing innovative and efficient initiatives and strategies to eradicate poverty, reduce inequalities within and among countries and promote decent work for all;

4. *Reaffirms* that the objective of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) is to maintain the momentum generated by the implementation of the Second Decade and to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Sustainable Development Goals and their objective of leaving no one behind and reaching the furthest behind first;

5. *Also reaffirms* that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, for all people everywhere, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, as well as an overarching objective of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, of which the Addis Ababa Action Agenda is an integral part;

6. *Further reaffirms* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies for the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication cannot be overemphasized, and recognizes that increased effective national efforts should be complemented by concrete, effective and supportive international programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership strategies and sovereignty;

7. *Welcomes* the remarkable progress made since 1990, which has lifted over 1.1 billion people out of extreme poverty, and the unprecedented decrease in the percentage of people living on less than 1.90 United States dollars a day<sup>438</sup> since the beginning of the Second Decade;

8. *Expresses its deep concern* that, while there has been progress in reducing poverty, such progress remains uneven, with 1.3 billion people still living in multidimensional poverty, this number continues to be significant and unacceptably high, the levels of inequality in income, wealth and opportunities remain high or are increasing in a number of countries, and the non-income dimensions of poverty and deprivation, such as access to quality education or basic health services, and relative poverty remain major concerns;

9. *Calls upon* the international community, including Member States and the organizations of the United Nations development system, including the funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, in accordance with their mandates, to continue to accord the highest priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda and to urgently take measures to address the root causes and challenges of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, hunger and all forms of malnutrition, in the light of their negative impacts on sustainable development, through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at all levels, in accordance with the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, and calls upon donor countries in a position to do so to support the effective national efforts of developing countries in this regard through predictable financial resources and technical assistance on bilateral and multilateral bases;

10. *Also calls upon* the international community, including Member States, to continue their ambitious efforts to strive for more inclusive, equitable, balanced, stable and development-oriented sustainable socioeconomic approaches to overcoming poverty, and, in view of the negative impact of all forms of inequality, including gender inequality, on poverty, emphasizes the importance of structural transformation that leads to inclusive and sustainable

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<sup>438</sup> From 2008 to mid-2015, United Nations reports on the Millennium Development Goals used a poverty line of 1.25 United States dollars a day, converted to national currencies at 2005 purchasing power parity exchange rates. Since mid-2015, the poverty line has been updated to 1.90 dollars a day, converted at 2011 purchasing power parity exchange rates.

industrialization for employment creation and poverty reduction, investing in sustainable agriculture and quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all, enhancing interconnectivity and achieving access to energy, and improving access to financial services, as well as promoting decent rural employment, improving access to quality education, promoting quality health-care services, including through the acceleration of the transition towards equitable access to universal health coverage, advancing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, expanding social protection coverage, climate change mitigation and adaptation and combating inequality and social exclusion;

11. *Recognizes* the urgent need to address poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity, which will lead to rich payoffs across the Sustainable Development Goals, and encourages the international community to enhance international cooperation and to devote resources to developing rural and urban areas and sustainable agriculture and fisheries and to supporting smallholder farmers, especially women farmers, herders and fishers in developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries;

12. *Stresses* the resolve to eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, measured since mid-2015 as living on less than 1.90 dollars a day, and the efforts to reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its forms and dimensions, according to national definitions;

13. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders, including organizations of the United Nations system and civil society organizations, to share good practices relating to programmes and policies that address inequalities for the benefit of those living in extreme poverty and promote the active participation of those living in extreme poverty in the design and implementation of such programmes and policies, with the aim of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

14. *Welcomes* the contributions of South-South cooperation to poverty eradication and sustainable development, and reaffirms that South-South cooperation is an important element of international cooperation for development as a complement to, not a substitute for, North-South cooperation, and commits to strengthening South-South and triangular cooperation as a means of bringing relevant experience and expertise to bear in development cooperation;

15. *Emphasizes* the importance of the outcome of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty of promoting and supporting the integration of decent work and poverty eradication into national and international policies, strategies and programmes, with a particular focus on those who risk being left behind, by, inter alia, implementing measures to formalize employment, consider introducing or strengthening minimum wages, guarantee respect for freedom of association and collective bargaining rights, combat all forms of discrimination in employment and end child and forced labour, including in agriculture and rural areas;

16. *Notes with concern* the continuing high levels of unemployment and underemployment, inter alia, among young people, including young women in particular, recognizes that decent work for all remains one of the best routes out of poverty, and in this regard invites donor countries, multilateral organizations and other development partners to continue to assist Member States, in particular developing countries, in adopting policies consistent with the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session as a general framework within which each country can formulate policy packages specific to its situation and national priorities in order to promote a job-intensive recovery and sustainable development;

17. *Recognizes* that substantial and efficiently spent investments are needed to improve the quality of and access to education and in order to enable millions of people to acquire skills for decent work, and takes note with appreciation of the report of the International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity and the recommendations contained therein, as appropriate;

18. *Encourages* the international community to support developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, the poor and people in vulnerable situations, with a view to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, as established by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which builds upon the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and addresses their unfinished business, improving tax systems and access to financial services, including affordable microfinance and credit, removing barriers to opportunity, enhancing productive capacity, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, encouraging the formalization and growth of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, developing sustainable agriculture and promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all, emphasizing the

important role of national efforts aimed at bringing workers from the informal to the formal economy, guided, as appropriate, by the Transition from the Informal to the Formal Economy Recommendation, 2015 (No. 204), of the International Labour Organization, complemented by national efforts on effective social policies, including social protection floors, and in this regard takes note of the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), of the International Labour Organization;

19. *Reaffirms its commitment* to embracing diversity in cities and human settlements, to strengthening social cohesion, intercultural dialogue and understanding, tolerance, mutual respect, gender equality, innovation, entrepreneurship, inclusion, identity and safety, and the dignity of all people, as well as to fostering liveability and a vibrant urban economy and to taking steps to ensure that local institutions promote pluralism and peaceful coexistence within increasingly heterogeneous and multicultural societies;

20. *Acknowledges* that good governance at the national and international levels and sustainable, inclusive, sustained and equitable economic growth, supported by full employment and decent work for all, and social integration, rising productivity and a favourable environment, including public and private investment, inter alia public-private partnership in a wide range of areas, and entrepreneurship, are necessary to eradicate poverty, to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, which build upon the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and address their unfinished business, and to realize a rise in living standards, and that corporate social responsibility initiatives play an important role in maximizing the impact of public and private investment;

21. *Stresses* the importance of using multidimensional indicators and developing transparent measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product in order to effectively reflect the reality of the populations of all developing countries, eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and reduce inequality everywhere, in accordance with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

22. *Recognizes* that social and economic development depends on the sustainable management of the natural resources of the planet, and stresses the importance of conserving and sustainably using oceans and seas, freshwater resources, forests, mountains and drylands and protecting biodiversity, ecosystems and wildlife, as well as promoting sustainable tourism, tackling water scarcity and water pollution, strengthening cooperation on desertification, dust storms, degraded land and soil and drought, promoting resilience and disaster risk reduction, addressing decisively the threat posed by climate change and environmental degradation and implementing the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns;<sup>439</sup>

23. *Also recognizes* that sustainable, inclusive, sustained and equitable economic growth is essential for eradicating poverty and hunger, in particular in developing countries, and stresses that national efforts in this regard should be complemented by an enabling international environment and by ensuring greater coherence among macroeconomic and social policies at all levels;

24. *Stresses* the importance of taking targeted measures to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, of implementing nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including social protection floors, and of achieving substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable, and encourages Member States to continue to develop and implement social protection floors based on national priorities, paying particular attention to women, children, older persons, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities;

25. *Also stresses* the importance of policies and actions that are not just gender-responsive but that actively seek to advance the goal of gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment as well as to address longer-term structural issues, including structural constraints faced by women as economic agents, and to remove any barriers that prevent women from being full participants in the economy, by, inter alia, undertaking legislation and administrative reforms, as appropriate, to give women equal rights with men in political and economic decision-making and access to economic resources and to promote the reconciliation of work and family responsibilities, including through paid maternity and parental leave and the redistribution of the disproportionate work burden of women engaged in unpaid work, including domestic and care work, encourages the private sector, in accordance with national legislation, to contribute to advancing gender equality by striving to ensure women's full and productive employment and decent

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<sup>439</sup> A/CONF.216/5, annex.



work, equal pay for equal work or work of equal value and equal opportunities, as well as by protecting them against discrimination and abuse in the workplace, and underlines that globally, gross domestic product could increase significantly if every country achieved gender equality and increased participation of women in the formal labour force;

26. *Emphasizes* the reference in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to the need to ensure the significant mobilization of financial and non-financial resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, as well as regional, subregional and interregional cooperation, in order to provide predictable means for all developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its forms and dimensions;

27. *Stresses* that the achievement of sustainable development and the eradication of poverty also hinge on the ability and readiness of countries to effectively mobilize domestic resources, attract foreign direct investment, fulfil official development assistance (ODA) commitments and use ODA effectively, and facilitate the transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms, to developing countries, and also stresses that the resolution of unsustainable debt situations is critical for heavily indebted poor countries, while remittances, the transaction costs for which should be reduced, have become a significant source of income and finance for receiving economies and their contribution to the achievement of sustainable development;

28. *Recognizes* that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda provides a global framework for financing sustainable development and is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, which relate to domestic public resources, domestic and international private business and finance, international development cooperation, international trade as an engine for development, debt and debt sustainability, addressing systemic issues and science, technology, innovation and capacity-building, and data, monitoring and follow-up, and that its full implementation will be critical to effectively implement the Third Decade;

29. *Also recognizes* that domestic resources mobilization, underscored by the principle of national ownership and supplemented by international assistance, as appropriate, will be critical to realizing sustainable development and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;

30. *Further recognizes* that private business activity, entrepreneurship, investment and innovation are major drivers of productivity, inclusive economic growth and job creation and that private international capital flows, particularly foreign direct investment, along with a stable international financial system, are vital complements to national development efforts;

31. *Recognizes* that more can be done to create competitive business and investment climates in support of sustainable development that are well placed to attract private sector investment and participation, and encourages an increase in the volume, quality, in particular its alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals, diversification and long-term nature of foreign direct investment to all developing countries;

32. *Welcomes* the progress on financial inclusion across all income groups and all regions in recent years, while being concerned that 2 billion people, primarily in rural areas in developing countries, still do not have access to formal financial services and remaining concerned about the gender gap in financial inclusion;

33. *Notes* that an important use of international public finance, including ODA, is to catalyse additional resource mobilization from other sources, public and private, and through appropriately designed risk-sharing instruments, including co-investments, public-private partnerships and guarantees, and also notes that it can support improved tax collection, help to strengthen domestic enabling environments and build essential public services and can also be used to unlock additional finance through blended or pooled financing and risk mitigation, notably for infrastructure and other investments that support private sector development;

34. *Emphasizes* that international public finance plays an important role in complementing the efforts of countries to mobilize public resources domestically, especially in the poorest and most vulnerable countries with limited domestic resources;

35. *Stresses* the importance of mobilizing greater domestic support towards the fulfilment of ODA commitments, including by raising public awareness, providing data on aid effectiveness and demonstrating tangible results, encourages partner countries to build on progress achieved in ensuring that ODA is used effectively to help to achieve development goals and targets, encourages the publication of forward-looking plans which increase the

clarity, predictability and transparency of future development cooperation, in accordance with national budget allocation processes, and urges countries to track and report resource allocations for advancing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

36. *Expresses concern* that in 2017 ODA fell by 0.6 per cent compared with 2016, while bilateral (country-to-country) aid to least developed countries rose by 4 per cent, after remaining flat for the previous six years, and that ODA was, on average, 0.31 per cent of the aggregate donor gross national income in 2014, below the commitment of 0.7 per cent, reiterates that the fulfilment of all ODA commitments remains crucial and that, for many least developed countries and landlocked developing countries, ODA remains the largest source of external financing, and therefore emphasizes the importance of the commitments made by many countries to achieve the national target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries, and calls upon developed countries to deliver on their commitments in relation to ODA;

37. *Welcomes* the increasing efforts to improve the quality of ODA and to increase its development impact, recognizes the Development Cooperation Forum of the Economic and Social Council, notes other initiatives, such as the high-level forums on aid effectiveness, which produced, inter alia, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action<sup>440</sup> and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, which make important contributions to the efforts of the countries that have made commitments to them, including through the adoption of their fundamental principles, and bears in mind that there is no one-size-fits-all formula that will guarantee effective assistance and that the specific situation of each country needs to be fully considered;

38. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to strengthen United Nations funding for the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, through voluntary contributions to existing poverty-related system-wide funds;

39. *Acknowledges* the complexity of the challenge of poverty eradication, and in this regard emphasizes that, in accelerating poverty eradication and effectively implementing the Third Decade, the organizations of the United Nations development system must be driven by national priorities, including through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, with the development of national capacities and development strategies in developing countries continuing to be a core area of focus, and operate in an integrated, coordinated and coherent manner, through development programmes and projects that address poverty eradication as their underlying objective, within their respective mandates, in order to ensure that gains are irreversible, making full use of the interlinked and mutually reinforcing pillars of the United Nations development system, and encourages the use of diverse strategies;

40. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting international cooperation for development, and recognizes the role of the specialized agencies and United Nations funds and programmes and regional commissions, including the International Labour Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic Commission for Europe, in contributing to international advocacy for eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including through education and training;

41. *Welcomes* the ongoing work by the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to support the implementation of the Third Decade, including the system-wide plan of action to coordinate the efforts of the United Nations system that can accelerate progress towards poverty eradication in all countries, and further encourages greater inter-agency convergence and collaboration within the United Nations system in sharing knowledge, promoting policy dialogue, facilitating synergies, mobilizing funds, providing technical assistance in the key policy areas underlying the decent work agenda and strengthening system-wide policy coherence on employment issues, including by avoiding the duplication of efforts;

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<sup>440</sup> A/63/539, annex.

42. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

43. *Calls upon* the international community to give priority to addressing the impacts of natural disasters, climate change, conflicts and major outbreaks of disease, which are severely hampering efforts to achieve poverty eradication, in particular in developing countries;

44. *Recognizes* the importance of addressing the diverse needs of and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing many middle-income countries, and therefore requests the United Nations development system, the international financial institutions, regional organizations and other stakeholders to ensure that these diverse and specific development needs are appropriately considered and addressed, in a tailored fashion, in their relevant strategies and policies, with a view to promoting a coherent and comprehensive approach towards individual countries;

45. *Invites* all States, organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations concerned and interested national organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to consider organizing activities for the celebration in 2019 of the twenty-seventh anniversary of the declaration by the General Assembly, in its resolution [47/196](#) of 22 December 1992, of 17 October as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, in order to raise public awareness to promote the eradication of poverty and extreme poverty in all countries, and in this regard recognizes the useful role that the observance of the International Day continues to play in raising public awareness and mobilizing all stakeholders in the fight against poverty and promoting the active participation of those living in extreme poverty in the design and implementation of programmes and policies which affect them, with the aim of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

46. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report that details the response of the United Nations system on the implementation of the Third Decade, includes an inter-agency, system-wide plan of action for poverty eradication to coordinate the efforts of the United Nations system, and contains recommendations concerning how to make the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) effective, in support of the poverty eradication-related internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, utilizing, as appropriate, existing expertise and poverty-related follow-up mechanisms and processes;

47. *Decides* that the theme of the Third Decade shall be “Accelerating global actions for a world without poverty” in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

48. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Eradication of poverty and other development issues”, the sub-item entitled “Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)”, unless otherwise agreed.

#### RESOLUTION 73/247

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/542/Add.2](#), para. 10),<sup>441</sup> by a recorded vote of 183 to 2, with no abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico,

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<sup>441</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Congo, United States of America

*Abstaining:* None

### 73/247. Industrial development cooperation

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [49/108](#) of 19 December 1994, [51/170](#) of 16 December 1996, [53/177](#) of 15 December 1998, [55/187](#) of 20 December 2000, [57/243](#) of 20 December 2002, [59/249](#) of 22 December 2004, [61/215](#) of 20 December 2006, [63/231](#) of 19 December 2008, [65/175](#) of 20 December 2010, [67/225](#) of 21 December 2012, [69/235](#) of 19 December 2014 and [71/242](#) of 21 December 2016,

*Recalling also* the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields,

*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 [71/243](#) of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and its general guidelines and principles, as well as its resolution [72/279](#) of 31 May 2018, and welcoming the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to better position the United Nations operational activities for development to support countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda,

*Reaffirming further* 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,

*Recognizing* that multi-stakeholder partnerships and the resources, knowledge and ingenuity of the private sector, civil society, the scientific community, academia, philanthropy and foundations, parliaments, local authorities, volunteers and other stakeholders will be important in order to mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources and complement the efforts of Governments,

*Reaffirming* the Paris Agreement,<sup>442</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>443</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Reaffirming also* the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito in October 2016,<sup>444</sup>

<sup>442</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>443</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>444</sup> Resolution [71/256](#), annex.

*Taking note* of the outcome documents of the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Nairobi in 2016,<sup>445</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution [70/293](#) of 25 July 2016 on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (2016–2025), in which it underlined the need for the African continent to take urgent action to support the inclusive and sustainable industrialization of Africa in order to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation, as well as to achieve other relevant Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda,

*Recalling also* its resolution [72/233](#) of 20 December 2017 on the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017), in which it emphasized the essential role of inclusive and sustainable industrial development as part of a comprehensive strategy of structural economic transformation in eradicating poverty,

*Recalling further* the fifteenth session of the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, held in Lima in December 2013, and the Lima Declaration: towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development,<sup>446</sup> in which the General Conference notably reaffirmed the unique mandate of the Organization and laid the foundation for its upcoming work to support member States in achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development,

*Recalling* that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, recognized, inter alia, the critical importance of industrial development for developing countries as a critical source of economic growth, economic diversification and value addition,

*Noting* the ongoing efforts to implement the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, adopted in May 2011 at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,<sup>447</sup> the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, adopted in September 2014 at the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States,<sup>448</sup> and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, adopted in November 2014 at the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries,<sup>449</sup> and recognizing that middle-income countries still face significant challenges in achieving sustainable development and the need, among other things, for improved coordination and better and focused support by the United Nations development system,

*Taking note* of the report of the Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization on the Strategic Framework for Partnering with Middle-Income Countries<sup>450</sup> developed in accordance with resolution GC.17/Res.6 of 1 December 2017 of the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, entitled “Sustainable industrial development in middle-income countries”,<sup>451</sup>

*Noting* that inclusive and sustainable industrial development can effectively contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, integrating, in a balanced manner, the three dimensions of sustainable development,

*Acknowledging* the industrial development reports prepared by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, which examine structural change and inclusive and sustainable industrial development policies to improve the contribution of industry to sustainable production and consumption, social inclusion, gender equality, decent work, productivity growth, technology and innovation, and resource efficiency, including but not limited to energy efficiency,

*Reiterating* that each country has the right and the primary responsibility to define its development strategies in accordance with its national priorities and in line with the internationally agreed development goals, including the

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<sup>445</sup> [TD/519](#), [TD/519/Add.1](#), [TD/519/Add.2](#) and [TD/519/Add.2/Corr.1](#).

<sup>446</sup> See GC.15/INF/4, resolution GC.15/Res.1.

<sup>447</sup> *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* ([A/CONF.219/7](#)), chap. II.

<sup>448</sup> Resolution [69/15](#), annex.

<sup>449</sup> Resolution [69/137](#), annex II.

<sup>450</sup> See IDB.46/13.

<sup>451</sup> See GC.17/INF/4.

Sustainable Development Goals, noting the past withdrawals from the membership of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, as well as the importance of member States in arrears fulfilling their obligations, and the potential impact on the Organization's capacity to deliver, and in this regard inviting all countries to align their support and development efforts towards the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

*Recognizing* the importance for the United Nations Industrial Development Organization of continuing to reach out to all States Members of the United Nations and of encouraging them to join the Organization, in the spirit of a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development and with a view to strengthening the means of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 9 and other relevant and interlinked goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda,

*Recognizing also* the importance of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in addressing the root causes of poverty by providing solutions, inter alia, for job creation, economic competitiveness and productive capability, through strengthening its efforts in promoting inclusive and sustainable development,

*Emphasizing* the essential role of inclusive and sustainable industrial development as part of a comprehensive strategy of structural economic transformation in eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and supporting sustained economic growth, and thus in contributing to achieving sustainable development in developing countries, including the most vulnerable countries, and in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, while recognizing the significant challenges facing middle-income countries, and emphasizing further that countries in situations of conflict also need special attention,

*Recognizing* the diversity of ways to achieve inclusive and sustainable industrial development and, in this connection, that each country has the primary responsibility for its own development and the right to determine its own development paths and appropriate strategies, in line with relevant international rules and commitments, taking into account different national capacities, needs and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities,

*Recalling* that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and acknowledging that building resilient and quality infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization, fostering innovation and achieving the interlinked targets of the other Sustainable Development Goals will be critical,

*Stressing* the importance of international industrial cooperation in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization, the creation of decent jobs, including for young people, inclusive economic growth, pollution control, knowledge networking, resource efficiency, access to clean, safe and sustainable energy, gender equality and women's empowerment, and opportunities for all members of society to participate in economic activities and to address major challenges and issues such as poverty, climate change, shifting demographics and growing inequalities,

*Stressing also* that the creation, development and diffusion of new innovations and technologies and associated know-how, including the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, are powerful drivers of economic growth and sustainable development,

*Underscoring* the importance of using science, technology and innovation, and entrepreneurship to build and maintain resilient industrial infrastructure and achieve inclusive and sustainable industrial development,

*Recognizing* the potential benefits for countries to transform their economies to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, by engaging with partners to integrate or implement concepts such as circular economy and Industry 4.0 for more sustainable industrial activity and manufacturing systems, according to national plans and priorities,

*Recognizing also* the role of the business community, including the private sector, in enhancing the dynamic process of the development of the industrial sector, underlining the importance of the benefits of foreign direct investment in that process, and recognizing also in this regard that an enabling national environment is vital for mobilizing national resources, increasing productivity, fostering long-term and quality investment, encouraging the private sector and making effective use of international investment and assistance, and that efforts to create such an environment should be supported by the international community,



*Emphasizing* the important role of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in industrial development, as well as public-private partnerships and entrepreneurship, in meeting the challenges of sustainable development, and in this regard underlining the responsibility of private actors to create new business practices and models by applying innovative market-based solutions to social and environmental problems that are inclusive, environmentally friendly, respect human rights, provide equal opportunities for women and youth and integrate frontier technologies that characterize the new industrial revolution and offer opportunities for society, but also raise concerns, such as, the future of work and widening inequalities within and between nations, and therefore the need for international coordination, knowledge-sharing and targeted support,

*Highlighting* the fact that ensuring inclusive and sustainable industrial development requires consistent industrial policies and institutional frameworks that are duly supported by the necessary investment in industrial infrastructure, clean technology, climate change action, innovation, environmental technologies and skills development,

*Recalling* the establishment, by its resolution 69/313, of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, and the launch, by its resolution 70/1, of the Mechanism, and looking forward to further collaboration between Member States, civil society, the private sector, the scientific community, United Nations system entities and other stakeholders to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development,

*Reiterating* the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

*Recommitting* to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization;<sup>452</sup>

2. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption, on 2 December 2013, of the Lima Declaration: towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development;<sup>446</sup>

3. *Reaffirms* the indivisible and inclusive nature of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>453</sup> while acknowledging that achieving inclusive and sustainable industrialization is integral to the efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;

4. *Recognizes* the unique mandate of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, within the United Nations system, to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development and the important contribution to be made by that Organization, in partnership with other relevant private and public entities and stakeholders, including new multilateral development finance institutions and funds, to strengthening existing partnerships and networks at the global, regional and subregional levels, including South-South and triangular cooperation, as appropriate and in accordance with their respective mandates, in supporting the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, including all relevant Goals and targets;

5. *Also recognizes* the contribution of the United Nations system, international financial institutions, international trade and economic institutions and all other relevant entities in supporting the promotion of inclusive and sustainable industrial development, in accordance with their respective mandates, in order to increase their effectiveness and to strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors in promoting and strengthening efforts towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development;

6. *Further recognizes* that inclusive and sustainable industrial development can play a crucial role in the realization of other major development objectives, including the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, since through inclusive and sustainable industrial development policies and practices, countries can achieve self-sustaining economic and social development in an environmentally sustainable framework;

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<sup>452</sup> See A/73/121.

<sup>453</sup> Resolution 70/1.

#### IV. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Second Committee

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7. *Reiterates* the policies, actions and objectives outlined in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development<sup>454</sup> to invest in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development to effectively address major challenges such as growth and jobs, resources and energy efficiency, pollution and climate change, knowledge-sharing, innovation and social inclusion;

8. *Recognizes* that the mobilization of national and international resources and an enabling national and international environment are key drivers for sustainable development;

9. *Underlines* the potential benefits, for developing countries, of stepping up their efforts to finance their own development by improving domestic resource mobilization and promoting financing, spurred by a robust and vibrant industrial sector, in order to achieve a long-term impact through local, national and regional ownership;

10. *Emphasizes* that each country must take the primary responsibility for its own industrial development, that national ownership and leadership are indispensable in the development process and that the role of national policies, resources and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and also emphasizes that it is crucial to maintain capacity for effective industrial policy design and implementation, consistent with international obligations, and thereby take into account the regional strategies and policies agreed upon, as appropriate;

11. *Recalls* the launch in 2016 of the Global Infrastructure Forum, led by the multilateral development banks, welcomes the holding of the forum in Bali, Indonesia, on 13 October 2018, and looks forward to relevant cooperation to advance the linkages among infrastructure development, inclusive and sustainable industrialization and innovation;

12. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to promote, within its mandate, its strategic priorities of creating shared prosperity, advancing economic competitiveness, safeguarding the environment and strengthening knowledge and institutions, through its four core functions, which include technical cooperation; policy advice, research and statistics; normative functions and standards and quality-related activities; and partnership-building for knowledge transfer, networking and industrial cooperation;

13. *Recalls with appreciation* the Group of 20 Initiative on Supporting Industrialization in Africa and Least Developed Countries, launched by the leaders of the Group of 20 at its Summit held in Hangzhou, China in September 2016,<sup>455</sup> which aims at strengthening the inclusive growth and development potential of Africa and the least developed countries through voluntary policy options, and looks forward to its implementation while urging the Group of 20 to continue to engage with other States Members of the United Nations in its work and to ensure that any Group of 20 initiatives complement and strengthen the United Nations system;

14. *Reaffirms* that women play a critical role in development, contribute to structural transformation and are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty and inequalities, that women's full, effective and equal participation in decision-making and the economy is vital in order to achieve sustainable development and significantly enhance economic growth and productivity and that realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls at all levels, including in decision-making processes, will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Sustainable Development Goals, including in achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development;

15. *Emphasizes* that national efforts should be supported by development partners, as appropriate, and need to be complemented by a rules-based multilateral trading system that facilitates trade and provides opportunities for developing countries that aim to broaden their competitive export base by strengthening their capacities, facilitating the structural transformation and diversification of their economies and enhancing the participation and integration of enterprises from developing countries, including micro and small-scale industrial enterprises, into global value chains and markets, which can help to promote economic growth and development, while taking into account support for local and regional industrial development and value chains, as appropriate;

16. *Also emphasizes* the need for the international community and the private sector, as appropriate, to contribute to creating an enabling environment for sustainable industrial development;

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<sup>454</sup> Resolution 69/313, annex.

<sup>455</sup> See A/71/380, annex.

17. *Stresses* that national development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems, and strengthened and enhanced global economic governance, and that processes to develop and facilitate the availability of appropriate knowledge and technologies globally, as well as capacity-building, are also critical;

18. *Recognizes* the importance of the role of the private sector, as well as the role of public-private partnerships, in meeting the challenges of sustainable development, and in this regard underlines the importance of strengthening existing and forging new partnerships and networks at the global, regional and subregional levels, including through South-South and triangular cooperation, and the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders towards achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development;

19. *Stresses* that a dynamic industrial and manufacturing sector is one of the many factors that can lead to narrowing income inequalities and to the development of social protection systems, as well as to reducing inequality within and among countries;

20. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to organize global dialogues and promote multi-stakeholder partnerships in order to actively pursue its important role in the achievement of inclusive and sustainable industrial development and to advance the linkages with infrastructure development and innovation for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda;

21. *Notes* the continuing cooperation of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization with the entities of the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies, funds and programmes;

22. *Underscores* the continuing work of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization as a global forum to disseminate knowledge and provide advice on industrial policies and strategies, successful industrialization experiences and best practices, as well as upcoming trends and challenges, as exemplified by the Global Manufacturing and Industrialization Summit held in Abu Dhabi from 27 to 30 March 2017, the Vienna Energy Forum and the Green Industry Conference;

23. *Notes* the initiative to host in Yekaterinburg, Russian Federation, in July 2019, the Global Manufacturing and Industrialization Summit with the aim to intensify the impact of innovation and new industrial revolution technologies on the global manufacturing sector through the worldwide dissemination of knowledge, best practices and standards;

24. *Recognizes* the key role of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in promoting sustainable industrial development and industrial innovation and mainstreaming science and technology into national productive systems;

25. *Encourages* regional, subregional and interregional cooperation as a platform for international industrial cooperation aiming to promote investments and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, to disseminate good policies and practices, as well as to foster decent work, including for youth and women;

26. *Welcomes* the alignment by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization of its medium-term policy framework with the new quadrennial comprehensive policy review cycle, especially as set out in resolution [72/279](#);

27. *Notes* the Programmes for Country Partnership of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, already launched, as a promising model to foster inclusive and sustainable industrial development for its member States, and looks forward to its continued expansion to achieve greater geographic coverage with due consideration to the specific needs of different countries, as stipulated in the Lima Declaration;

28. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to assist developing countries, including African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges, in participating in productive activities through, inter alia, the development of sustainable agro-industry and agribusiness that improves food security, eradicates hunger, creates jobs and is economically viable, and in this regard, encourages new donors to support the unique work of the Organization in these regions;

29. *Encourages* the promotion of South-South cooperation, triangular cooperation and the transfer, diffusion and adoption of technology on mutually agreed terms in building their engagement in international trade through the development of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises;

30. *Also encourages* supporting the meeting of international product and process standards and the integration of women and youth into the development process;

31. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to support developing countries, upon request and in line with their development priorities, in achieving enhanced levels of inclusive and sustainable industrial development by assisting them in building sustainable productive and trade capacities, including through support for policies in the context of job creation and poverty eradication in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and in building institutional capacities for promoting environmentally sound and sustainable production, including through programmes on cleaner production, industrial water management, industrial energy efficiency and the utilization of efficient, modern and affordable forms of energy for productive use, especially in rural areas, and through continued cooperation with United Nations organizations and other organizations in order to support the achievement of multilateral environmental agreements and promote global goals on access to clean, safe and sustainable energy, including on renewable energy and energy efficiency;

32. *Also encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue strengthening its role in assisting developing countries to create and disseminate knowledge by, inter alia, making use of its global network of investment and technology promotion offices, resource-efficient and cleaner production centres, centres for South-South industrial cooperation and international technology centres as well as through its Networks for Prosperity initiative;

33. *Reiterates* the importance of promoting the creation and development of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises as a strategy for achieving industrial development, economic dynamism, poverty and hunger eradication and job creation, including through the mobilization of resources and measures to foster sustainable and inclusive development, and in this regard recalls International Labour Organization recommendation No. 189 concerning job creation in small and medium-sized enterprises;

34. *Acknowledges* the importance of reporting on corporate sustainability, encourages companies, where appropriate, especially publicly listed and large companies, to consider integrating sustainability information into their reporting cycle, and encourages industry, interested Governments and relevant stakeholders, with the support of the United Nations system, as appropriate, to develop models for best practices and to facilitate action for the integration of sustainability reporting, taking into account experiences gained from already existing frameworks and paying particular attention to the needs of developing countries, including for capacity-building;

35. *Welcomes* the ongoing support of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for the New Partnership for Africa's Development,<sup>456</sup> the African (Accelerated) Agribusiness and Agro-industries Development Initiative, the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa and other programmes of the African Union aimed at further strengthening the industrialization process in Africa;

36. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the World Bank and the regional development banks to support industrial development through financial programmes, and encourages the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to work closely with regional development banks on the implementation of their regional strategies, including with the African Development Bank on the implementation of their industrialization strategy for Africa;

37. *Stresses* the importance of the activities of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, within its mandate, to support the efforts of middle-income countries to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, reduce inequalities and achieve sustainable development using, inter alia, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization Strategic Framework for Partnering with Middle-Income Countries;<sup>450</sup>

38. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to promote, within its mandate, its thematic priorities of creating shared prosperity, advancing economic competitiveness and safeguarding the environment, through its four enabling functions, which include technical cooperation; analytical and research and policy advisory services; normative functions and standards and quality-related activities; and partnership-building for knowledge transfer, networking and industrial cooperation, with the aim of enhancing the quality of the services it provides to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in accordance with its medium-term programme framework 2018–2021 and taking into account the 2030 Agenda and other relevant development-related outcomes;

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<sup>456</sup> A/57/304, annex.

39. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

40. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of the seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “Eradication of poverty and other development issues”, the sub-item entitled “Industrial development cooperation”.

#### RESOLUTION 73/248

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/543/Add.1, para. 10)<sup>457</sup>

##### **73/248. Operational activities for development of the United Nations system**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including its general guidelines,

*Reaffirming also* 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,

*Reaffirming further* 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* 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<sup>458</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>459</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*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,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the system-wide implementation of General Assembly resolution 71/243,<sup>460</sup> and welcomes his efforts on the repositioning of the United Nations development system;

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<sup>457</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

<sup>458</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>459</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>460</sup> A/72/124-E/2018/3, A/72/684-E/2018/7 and A/73/63-E/2018/8.



2. *Requests* the Secretary-General and all entities of the United Nations development system to ensure full implementation of General Assembly resolutions [71/243](#) and [72/279](#), and stresses the urgency of implementing the mandates contained in paragraphs 4, 15, 19, 29, and 30 of its resolution [72/279](#), on which reporting is required at the operational activities for development segment of the Economic and Social Council session in May 2019;
3. *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;
4. *Strongly urges* all Member States to provide voluntary contributions to the dedicated trust fund for the reinvigorated resident coordinator system in a timely manner for the inception period;
5. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure full achievement of the efficiency gains envisioned in the report of the Secretary-General<sup>461</sup> in a timely manner and to redeploy these efficiency gains for development activities, including coordination;
6. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;
7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council on progress made in the implementation of the mandates contained in its resolutions [71/243](#) and [72/279](#), as part of his annual reporting to the Council at the operational activities for development segment of its 2019 session, and to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session for its further consideration and to inform the next cycle of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, to be launched in 2020;
8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Operational activities for development”, the sub-item entitled “Operational activities for development of the United Nations system”.

#### RESOLUTION 73/249

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/543/Add.2](#), para. 12)<sup>462</sup>

##### **73/249. South-South cooperation**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its resolution [64/222](#) of 21 December 2009, in which it endorsed the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

*Reaffirming also* its resolution [33/134](#) of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,<sup>463</sup>

*Recalling* its resolutions [57/270 B](#) of 23 June 2003, [60/212](#) of 22 December 2005, [62/209](#) of 19 December 2007, [63/233](#) of 19 December 2008, [64/1](#) of 6 October 2009, [66/219](#) of 22 December 2011, [67/227](#) of 21 December 2012, [68/230](#) of 20 December 2013, [69/239](#) of 19 December 2014, [70/222](#) of 22 December 2015, [71/244](#) of 21 December 2016 and [72/237](#) of 20 December 2017,

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<sup>461</sup> [A/72/684-E/2018/7](#).

<sup>462</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

<sup>463</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August–12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.



*Reaffirming* its resolution [71/318](#) of 28 August 2017 on the modalities of the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

*Reaffirming also* 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 further* 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,

*Recalling* the United Nations resolutions relevant to South-South cooperation and the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, and acknowledging the Havana Programme of Action, adopted by the first South Summit,<sup>464</sup> the Marrakech Framework for the Implementation of South-South Cooperation<sup>465</sup> and the Doha Plan of Action adopted at the second South Summit,<sup>466</sup>

*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement,<sup>467</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>468</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Reaffirming* its resolution [71/243](#) of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system and the general guidelines and principles contained therein, and reaffirming also 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 the operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

*Reiterating* the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

*Recommitting* to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation;<sup>469</sup>
2. *Also takes note* of the Joint Inspection Unit report on South-South and triangular cooperation in the United Nations system<sup>470</sup> and its progress report on the recommendations contained therein;<sup>471</sup>
3. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen and further invigorate South-South and triangular cooperation and welcomes the convening of the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, to be held in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019;

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<sup>464</sup> [A/55/74](#), annex II.

<sup>465</sup> [A/58/683](#), annex II.

<sup>466</sup> [A/60/111](#), annex II.

<sup>467</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>468</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>469</sup> [A/73/321](#).

<sup>470</sup> [A/66/717](#).

<sup>471</sup> See [A/73/311](#).

4. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Operational activities for development”, the sub-item entitled “South-South cooperation for development”, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a comprehensive report on the state of South-South cooperation.

#### RESOLUTION 73/250

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/544, para. 29)<sup>472</sup>

##### 73/250. World Food Safety Day

*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,

*Reaffirming also* its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, in particular paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for the proclamation of international years, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14, in which it is stated that an international day or year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

*Noting* that there is no food security without food safety and that in a world where the food supply chain has become more complex, any adverse food safety incident may have global negative effects on public health, trade and the economy,

*Noting also* that improving food safety contributes positively to trade, employment and poverty alleviation,

*Taking into account* that the global burden of foodborne diseases is considerable and affects individuals of all ages, in particular children under 5 years of age, and persons living in low-income regions of the world,

*Cognizant* of the urgent need to raise awareness at all levels and to promote and facilitate actions for global food safety, on the basis of scientific principles, in line with the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization,

*Recalling* the leading role of the Codex Alimentarius Commission of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization in setting international food standards to protect the health of consumers and in ensuring fair practices in the food trade, and the leading role of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization in providing capacity-building to countries to implement food safety systems,

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<sup>472</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Uruguay, Viet Nam and Zambia.

*Recalling* resolution 11/2017 adopted on 7 July 2017 by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its fortieth session,

*Acknowledging* that promoting sustainable agriculture can contribute to food safety,

1. *Decides* to designate 7 June as World Food Safety Day;
2. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions, and invites all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations, the private sector and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, individuals and other relevant stakeholders, to observe World Food Safety Day in an appropriate manner and in accordance with national priorities;
3. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization, the parent organizations of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, to jointly facilitate the observance of World Food Safety Day, in collaboration with other relevant organizations, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67;
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and civil society organizations for appropriate observance.

#### RESOLUTION 73/251

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/544, para. 29)<sup>473</sup>

#### 73/251. World Pulses Day

*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,

*Reaffirming also* its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, in particular paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for the proclamation of international years, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14, in which it is stated that an international day or year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

*Recalling* resolution 10/2017 adopted on 7 July 2017 by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its fortieth session,

*Recognizing* the success of the International Year of Pulses 2016, declared by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/231 of 20 December 2013, which raised the role of pulses in contributing to sustainable food production aimed towards food security and nutrition,

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<sup>473</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belize, Bhutan, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Malawi, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

*Noting* that pulse crops such as lentils, beans, peas and chickpeas are one of the sources of plant-based proteins and amino acids for a healthy diet for people around the globe, and recognizing that the high iron content of pulses, when combined with food high in vitamin C, makes them a potent food for replenishing iron stores, particularly for women of reproductive age, as well as a source of plant-based protein for animals,

*Recognizing* that pulses are leguminous plants that have nitrogen-fixing properties which can contribute to increasing soil fertility and have a positive impact on the environment,

*Recognizing also* that in many countries women have the primary responsibility for the cultivation of pulses, and recognizing further the importance of empowering the women who grow them,

*Recognizing further* the potential of pulses to further the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Recalling* that health organizations recommend a healthy diet, which may include pulses, to optimize nutrition as well as to help prevent and manage such chronic diseases as obesity, diabetes, coronary conditions and cancer,

*Affirming* the need to continue to heighten public awareness of the nutritional benefits of eating a variety of food, including pulses, and affirming also the contribution of pulses to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the need to further promote sustainable agriculture,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on activities during the International Year of Pulses, 2016;<sup>474</sup>
2. *Decides* to designate 10 February as World Pulses Day;
3. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations, the private sector and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, individuals and other relevant stakeholders, to observe World Pulses Day in an appropriate manner and in accordance with national priorities;
4. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to facilitate the observance of World Pulses Day, in collaboration with other relevant organizations, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67;
5. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions;
6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders for appropriate observance.

#### RESOLUTION 73/252

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/544, para. 29)<sup>475</sup>

#### 73/252. International Year of Plant Health, 2020

*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,

<sup>474</sup> A/73/287.

<sup>475</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mauritius, Montenegro, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Yemen.

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 resolutions [53/199](#) of 15 December 1998 and [61/185](#) of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years, and Economic and Social Council resolution [1980/67](#) of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, in particular paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for the proclamation of international years, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14, in which it is stated that an international day or year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

*Noting* that healthy plants constitute the foundation for all life on Earth, as well as ecosystem functions and food security, and are key to sustaining life on Earth,

*Recognizing* that plant health is key to the sustainable development of agriculture to feed the growing global population by 2050,

*Recognizing also* that sustaining plant health protects the environment, forests and biodiversity from plant pests, addresses the effects of climate change, and supports efforts to end hunger, malnutrition and poverty and boosts economic development, and that the protection of plant health from pests is a key factor in strategies to eliminate hunger and rural poverty,

*Stressing* the urgent need to raise awareness of and to promote and facilitate actions towards the management of plant health in order to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

*Trusting* that the celebration of an international year would encourage actions to promote and implement activities in favour of preserving and sustaining global plant resources and raise awareness of the importance of plant health in addressing issues of global concern, including hunger, poverty and threats to the environment,

*Recalling* resolution 5/2017 adopted on 7 July 2017 by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its fortieth session, held in Rome from 3 to 8 July 2017,

1. *Decides* to declare 2020 the International Year of Plant Health;
2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, individuals and other relevant stakeholders, to observe the International Year, as appropriate, through activities aimed at raising awareness of the importance of plant health and the economic, social and environmental impact of plant health on food security and ecosystem functions, and to share best practices in this regard;
3. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in collaboration with the International Plant Protection Convention, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution [1980/67](#), to facilitate the implementation of the International Year;
4. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions;
5. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders to contribute to and support the International Year;
6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and civil society organizations for appropriate observance.

### RESOLUTION 73/253

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/544](#), para. 29),<sup>476</sup> by a recorded vote of 185 to 1, with 1 abstention, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia,

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<sup>476</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).



Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* United States of America

*Abstaining:* Croatia

### 73/253. Agriculture development, food security and nutrition

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [65/178](#) of 20 December 2010, [66/220](#) of 22 December 2011, [67/228](#) of 21 December 2012, [68/233](#) of 20 December 2013, [69/240](#) of 19 December 2014, [70/223](#) of 22 December 2015, [71/245](#) of 21 December 2016 and [72/238](#) of 20 December 2017,

*Recalling also* the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security,<sup>477</sup> particularly the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security, and noting the Rome Declaration on Nutrition,<sup>478</sup> as well as the Framework for Action,<sup>479</sup> which provides a set of voluntary policy options and strategies for use by Governments, as appropriate, adopted at the Second International Conference on Nutrition, held in Rome from 19 to 21 November 2014,

*Recalling further* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,<sup>480</sup> Agenda 21,<sup>481</sup> the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,<sup>482</sup> the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development<sup>483</sup> and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),<sup>484</sup> the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>485</sup> the 2005 World Summit Outcome,<sup>486</sup> the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,<sup>487</sup> the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,<sup>488</sup> the Vienna

<sup>477</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

<sup>478</sup> World Health Organization, document EB136/8, annex I.

<sup>479</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>480</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>481</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>482</sup> Resolution [S-19/2](#), annex.

<sup>483</sup> *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.

<sup>484</sup> *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

<sup>485</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>486</sup> Resolution [60/1](#).

<sup>487</sup> Resolution [63/239](#), annex.

<sup>488</sup> *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* ([A/CONF.219/7](#)), chap. II.



Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024<sup>489</sup> and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,<sup>490</sup>

*Recalling* 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”,<sup>491</sup>

*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,

*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement,<sup>492</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>493</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Highlighting* the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the scientific findings contained in the special report entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

*Looking forward* to the climate summit called for by the Secretary-General, to be held in New York in 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change,

*Reaffirming* 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,<sup>494</sup> and reaffirming also the importance of promoting the integration of food security and the nutritional needs of urban residents, particularly the urban poor, in urban and territorial planning, in order to end hunger and malnutrition, as well as promoting coordination of sustainable food security and agriculture policies across urban, peri-urban and rural areas,

*Reaffirming also* the importance of supporting Agenda 2063 of the African Union, as well as its 10-year plan of action, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa’s Development and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme,

*Reaffirming further* its resolutions 71/243 of 21 December 2016 and 72/279 of 31 May 2018, and welcoming the efforts of the Secretary-General to better position the United Nations operational activities for development to support countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda, and in particular to enhance coordination and urgency in achieving Sustainable Development Goal 2,

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<sup>489</sup> Resolution 69/137, annex II.

<sup>490</sup> Resolution 69/15, annex.

<sup>491</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>492</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>493</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>494</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

*Recalling* the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases<sup>495</sup> and the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the comprehensive review and assessment of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,<sup>496</sup> welcoming the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, held in New York on 27 September 2018, and its political declaration entitled “Time to deliver: accelerating our response to address non-communicable diseases for the health and well-being of present and future generations” adopted by the Assembly in its resolution [73/2](#) of 10 October 2018 as a renewal of the commitment to tackle non-communicable diseases, and underscoring the need to make progress on the agreed commitments,

*Welcoming* the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the fight against tuberculosis, held in New York on 26 September 2018, and the commitment in its political declaration<sup>497</sup> to the multisectoral action required to address the social and economic factors driving the worldwide tuberculosis epidemic,

*Recalling* the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance, held in New York on 21 September 2016, and its political declaration, as set out in resolution [71/3](#) of 5 October 2016, in which the Assembly reaffirmed the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance,<sup>498</sup> developed by the World Health Organization in collaboration with, and subsequently adopted by, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Organization for Animal Health,

*Recalling also* the action plan on antimicrobial resistance 2016–2020 of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, which supports the food and agriculture sectors in implementing the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance developed by the World Health Organization in collaboration with, and subsequently adopted by, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Organization for Animal Health,

*Expressing concern* that the current pace and scope of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 2 is unlikely to promote the transformational change needed and that its targets will not be achieved in many parts of the world, and calling for additional efforts to support the transformational change needed,

*Expressing concern also* that the multiple and complex causes of the food crises that occur in different regions of the world, affecting developing countries, especially net food importers, and their consequences for food security and nutrition require a comprehensive and coordinated response in the short, medium and long term by national Governments, civil society, the private sector and the international community, reiterating that the root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition are poverty, growing inequality, inequity and lack of access to resources and income-earning opportunities, the effects of climate change and disasters, and conflicts, and remaining concerned that excessively volatile food prices can pose a serious challenge to the fight against poverty and hunger and to the efforts of developing countries to attain food security and improved nutrition and to achieve internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to ending hunger and malnutrition,

*Recalling* the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030,<sup>499</sup> acknowledging that forests provide essential ecosystem services, such as timber, food, fuel, fodder, non-wood products and shelter, as well as soil and water conservation and clean air, that sustainable management of forests and trees outside forests is vital to the integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and that forests prevent land degradation and desertification and reduce the risks of floods, landslides and avalanches, droughts, dust and sand storms and other disasters, and stressing in this regard the role of all types of forests, including boreal, temperate and tropical forests, in providing food security,

*Noting* the engagement of the Committee on World Food Security in advancing country-led implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

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<sup>495</sup> Resolution [66/2](#), annex.

<sup>496</sup> Resolution [68/300](#).

<sup>497</sup> Resolution [73/3](#).

<sup>498</sup> World Health Organization, document WHA68/2015/REC/1, annex 3.

<sup>499</sup> See resolution [71/285](#).

*Welcoming* the outcome of the forty-fifth session of the Committee on World Food Security, held in Rome from 15 to 19 October 2018, taking note of its main outcomes, such as the launch of an inclusive process leading to the development of Committee on Food Security voluntary guidelines on food systems and nutrition, in support of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025), recalling the endorsement by the Committee in 2014 of the voluntary Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems<sup>500</sup> and the Committee's Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,<sup>501</sup> and taking note of the adoption of the policy recommendations on connecting smallholders to markets and on sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition, including the role of livestock,

*Taking note* of the launch of the Sustainable Food Systems Programme under the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns,<sup>502</sup> an inclusive initiative to accelerate the shift towards more sustainable food systems,

*Recalling* the operationalization of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries, which is helping the least developed countries to strengthen their science, technology and innovation capacities and fostering the development of national and regional innovation ecosystems, as well as developing capacities for partnerships in science, technology and innovation collaboration with other countries worldwide,

*Noting with appreciation* the work undertaken by relevant international bodies and organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), on agricultural development and on enhancing food security and food safety and improving nutrition outcomes,

*Recalling* the declaration of 2016–2025 as the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition, based on the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action, and the call upon the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization to implement a work programme for 2016–2025, taking into account contributions from relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, using coordinating mechanisms such as the Standing Committee on Nutrition and multi-stakeholder platforms such as the Committee on World Food Security,

*Welcoming* the adoption of its resolution [72/239](#) of 20 December 2017, in which it proclaimed 2019–2028 the United Nations Decade of Family Farming, which raised the profile of the role of family farming in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to the achievement of food security and improved nutrition,

*Reaffirming* that agriculture remains a fundamental and key sector for developing countries, and noting the importance of working towards eliminating all forms of protectionism,

*Acknowledging* the importance of promoting sustainable farming and agriculture, which will contribute to sustainable food production systems and the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems and help to eradicate hunger and malnutrition,

*Bearing in mind* that the agriculture sector depends heavily on biodiversity and its components, as well as on the ecosystem functions and services which biodiversity underpins, and that these sectors also have an impact on biodiversity in various direct and indirect ways, as acknowledged in the Cancun Declaration on Mainstreaming the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for Well-being,<sup>503</sup>

*Reaffirming* the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain their physical and mental capacities, and underlining the need to make special efforts to meet nutritional needs, especially of women, children, older persons, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities, as well as of those living in vulnerable situations,

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<sup>500</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2015/20, appendix D.

<sup>501</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document CL 144/9 (C 2013/20), appendix D.

<sup>502</sup> [A/CONF.216/5](#), annex.

<sup>503</sup> United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/24.

*Taking note with appreciation* of the publications entitled *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2018: Building Climate Resilience for Food Security and Nutrition*, issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme and the United Nations Children's Fund, and *The State of Food and Agriculture 2018: Migration, Agriculture and Rural Development*, issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

*Remaining deeply concerned* that, according to the most recent estimates of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Food Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, the number of chronically undernourished people in the world increased to nearly 821 million in 2017, from around 804 million in 2016, and that global nutrition challenges are increasingly complex as multiple forms of malnutrition, including stunting, wasting, underweight, micronutrient deficiencies, overweight and obesity, may coexist within the same country or household,

*Recognizing* that economic slowdown, gender inequalities, conflict, drought and the adverse effects of climate change, including more frequent and extreme weather events, are among the key factors contributing to a reversal in the long-term progress in fighting global hunger, making the prospect of ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition by 2030 more difficult,

*Remaining deeply concerned* about the continuing food insecurity and malnutrition being faced by hundreds of millions of people, in particular in sub-Saharan Africa and in South and West Asia,

*Recognizing* the need to prevent the recurrence in the future of deaths of people from famine,

*Expressing its concern* about the growing number of obese adults in the world, from 563.7 million in 2012 to 672.3 million in 2016,

*Expressing its concern also* that, according to the *Global Report on Food Crises 2018*, the number of people facing crisis-level food insecurity or worse has increased dramatically, up from almost 108 million in 2016 to 124 million in 2017 in countries affected by, inter alia, conflict and exacerbated by climate-related events, environmental factors, including natural disasters, and excessive food price volatility,

*Noting* that an increasing number of countries, in particular in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Pacific, are integrating food security and nutrition into their agriculture policies and investment plans and that, as a result, eradicating hunger, improving food security and ensuring adequate nutrition are being given greater prominence in regional development strategies, such as the African Union Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations food security and nutrition strategy, the Piura Declaration on Food Security, the Framework for Multi-Year Programme on Food Security and Climate Change and the Strategic Framework on Rural-Urban Development to Strengthen Food Security and Quality Growth, adopted by the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, the Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean 2025 Initiative, the strategy on food security and nutrition of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries and the Arab food security initiative, all of which emphasized the importance of investing in agriculture, diversifying food production and diets and providing quality nutritional education to consumers, introducing labour-saving technologies in food production and processing, enhancing women's access to income and strengthening capacity-building in improving food safety at all stages of the food chain, and noting also the establishment of the Islamic Organization for Food Security, headquartered in Astana,

*Reiterating* the urgent need for action to address the adverse effects of climate change on food security, in particular for women, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, as well as the other root causes of food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition,

*Expressing concern* that climate change will disproportionately impact the most vulnerable people, especially women and children, and their livelihoods, ultimately putting hundreds of millions of people at risk, and that by 2050, the risk of hunger and child malnutrition could increase by up to 20 per cent owing to climate change,

*Reiterating* the importance of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, as well as the recognition and protection of the rights of small-holders, particularly women, reiterating also the importance, inter alia, of empowering rural women, youth, small-scale farmers, family farmers and livestock farmers, fishers and fish workers as critical agents for enhancing agricultural and rural development and food security and for improving

nutrition outcomes, and acknowledging their fundamental contribution to the environmental sustainability and the genetic preservation of agricultural systems and to sustaining productivity on often marginal lands,

*Recognizing* that livestock contributes 40 per cent of the global value of agricultural output and supports the livelihoods and food security of almost 1.3 billion people, and in this regard acknowledging that the sector offers opportunities for sustainable agricultural development, poverty eradication and food security gains, and offers an opportunity for raising climate awareness,

*Acknowledging* that social protection programmes and measures are effective in reducing poverty and hunger,

*Recognizing* the importance of initiatives under the United Nations system, including the observance of World Pulses Day, World Tuna Day, Sustainable Gastronomy Day, World Bee Day, World Food Safety Day, World Soil Day, the International Year of Camelids, the International Year of Plant Health, the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028, and the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028), aimed at increasing public awareness of relevant agriculture, food security and nutritional benefits, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions [53/199](#) of 15 December 1998 and [61/185](#) of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years and Economic and Social Council resolution [1980/67](#) of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries,

*Recognizing also* the need to increase responsible public and private investment in the agriculture sector, inter alia, to find inclusive solutions to and fight hunger and malnutrition and to promote rural and urban sustainable development,

*Recalling* the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and its guiding principles,<sup>504</sup> and recalling also its promotion of regular disaster preparedness, response and recovery exercises, at the national and local levels, with a view to ensuring rapid and effective response to disasters and related displacement, including access to essential food and non-food relief supplies, as appropriate to local needs,

*Noting* the Committee on World Food Security Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises, the Committee’s policy recommendations on sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for food security and nutrition and its policy recommendations on food losses and waste in the context of sustainable food systems,

*Recalling* that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and acknowledging that reaching Goal 2 and the interlinked targets of other Goals will be critical, inter alia, in ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition,

*Reiterating* the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

*Recommitting* to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>505</sup>
2. *Stresses* the importance of continued consideration of the issue of agriculture development, food security and nutrition, and encourages Member States and relevant stakeholders to give due consideration to this issue while implementing the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>506</sup> and its Sustainable Development Goals;
3. *Emphasizes* that sustainable agricultural production, food security, food safety and nutrition are key elements for the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, and calls for greater efforts to sustainably enhance the agricultural production capacities, productivity and food security of developing countries;

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<sup>504</sup> Resolution [69/283](#), annex II.

<sup>505</sup> [A/73/293](#).

<sup>506</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

4. *Also emphasizes* the need to accelerate and scale up action, as appropriate, to strengthen the resilience and adaptive capacity of food systems and people's livelihoods in response to climate variability and extremes, to achieve a world without hunger and malnutrition in all its forms by 2030;

5. *Expresses concern* that the world is not on track to eradicate hunger and malnutrition by 2030 and that scarce and unsustainably managed natural resources, combined with insecure and uneven tenure rights for smallholders, are severely affecting those in vulnerable situations in rural areas, that climate change, including the adverse impact of sea level rise, drought, desertification and conflict and post-conflict situations are challenges with regard to food security and nutrition and diet-related non-communicable diseases in many places, preventing progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, and that countries in protracted crises are at risk of being left behind;

6. *Stresses* that urgent and concerted action is needed at all levels to recover momentum and accelerate efforts to end hunger and all forms of malnutrition, comprehensively tackling both its causes and effects, and to promote improved nutrition and sustainable agriculture and food systems;

7. *Reiterates* the importance of developing countries determining their own food security strategies, that improving food security and nutrition is a global challenge and a national policy responsibility and that any plans for addressing this challenge in the context of eradicating poverty must be nationally articulated, designed, owned, led and built in consultation, as an inclusive process, with all key stakeholders at the national level, as appropriate, and urges Member States, especially those affected, to make food security, food safety and nutrition a high priority and to reflect this in their national programmes and budgets;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to continue its support for the implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme and its results framework, which is an integral component of the Programme that provides guidance on planning and implementing investment programmes;

9. *Encourages* Member States, in designing their national policies, to fully take into account the Rome Declaration on Nutrition<sup>478</sup> as well as the Framework for Action,<sup>479</sup> which provides a set of voluntary policy options and strategies for the use of Governments, as appropriate;

10. *Urges* increased political commitment by Member States to end hunger and all forms of malnutrition, notes in this regard the Scaling Up Nutrition movement, and encourages Member States to engage in the movement at the global and country levels to reduce the increasing level in global hunger and all forms of malnutrition, in particular among children, especially children under the age of 2, women, especially those who are pregnant and lactating, and youth;

11. *Underscores* the need to address child stunting, which remains unacceptably high, with nearly 151 million children under 5 years of age, or over 22 per cent, affected by stunting in 2017;

12. *Emphasizes* the six global nutrition targets set by the World Health Assembly to address global malnutrition and the related monitoring framework;

13. *Takes note* of the Global Nutrition for Growth Compact, signed by more than 100 countries, companies and civil society organizations, to reduce the number of stunted children by 20 million by 2020 and the financial commitments made to support this goal, as well as the third Nutrition for Growth summit, held in Milan, Italy, in November 2017;

14. *Stresses* the need to increase sustainable agricultural production and productivity globally, noting the diversity of agricultural conditions and systems, including by improving and aiming to ensure the functioning of markets and trading systems and strengthening international cooperation, particularly for developing countries, and by increasing responsible public and private investment in sustainable agriculture, land management and rural development, as well as collaboration in science, technology and innovation, and notes that the benefit of such public and private investment and engagement should also reach, where appropriate, local smallholders in appropriate knowledge management systems and communications systems with regard to promoting food security, improving nutrition outcomes and reducing inequality;

15. *Recognizes* the need to increase the resilience and sustainability of food and agricultural production with regard to climate change in the context of the rising demand for crops, bearing in mind the importance of safeguarding food security and ending hunger and the particular vulnerabilities of food production systems to the adverse impacts of



climate change, and encourages efforts at all levels to support climate-sensitive agricultural practices, including agroforestry, agroecology, conservation agriculture, water management schemes, drought- and flood-resistant seeds and sustainable livestock management, and to establish and strengthen interfaces between scientists, decision makers, entrepreneurs and funders of science, technology and innovation, as well as measures to strengthen the resilience of those in vulnerable situations and of food systems, which can also have a wider positive impact, emphasizing adaptation to climate change as a major concern and objective for all farmers and food producers, especially small-scale producers;

16. *Reaffirms* the need to promote, enhance and support more sustainable agriculture, including crops, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, that improves food security, eradicates hunger, helps to prevent malnutrition and is economically viable, while conserving land, water, plant and animal genetic resources, biodiversity and ecosystems and enhancing resilience to climate change and natural disasters, and recognizes the need to maintain natural ecological processes that support sustainable and efficient food production systems and ensure food security, underlines the importance of mainstreaming the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the agriculture sector, and takes note of the importance of the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems and the Biodiversity Mainstreaming Platform promoted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

17. *Expresses concern* about antimicrobial resistance, in particular in the agricultural sector, and in this regard encourages the implementation of the action plan on antimicrobial resistance 2016–2020 of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, which supports the food and agriculture sectors in implementing the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance<sup>498</sup> developed by the World Health Organization in collaboration with, and subsequently adopted by, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Organization for Animal Health, in order to minimize the impact of antimicrobial resistance;

18. *Recognizes* that sustainable food systems have a fundamental role to play in promoting healthy diets and improving nutrition and preventing and controlling non-communicable diseases, and welcomes the formulation and implementation of internationally consistent national policies aimed at eradicating malnutrition in all its forms and transforming food systems so as to make nutritious diets available to all, while reaffirming that health, water and sanitation systems must be strengthened simultaneously to end malnutrition;

19. *Calls for* closing the gender gap in access to productive resources in agriculture, noting with concern that the gender gap persists with respect to many assets, inputs and services, and stresses the need to invest in and strengthen efforts to empower women, in particular rural women, to address their own food and nutritional needs and those of their families, to promote adequate standards of living for them, as well as decent conditions of work, and to guarantee their personal health, well-being and security, full access to land and natural resources and access to local, regional and global markets;

20. *Recognizes* the critical role and contribution of rural women, including smallholders and women farmers, and indigenous women and women in local communities, and their traditional knowledge in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty, and in this regard stresses the importance of reviewing agricultural policies and strategies to ensure that the critical role of women in food security and nutrition is recognized and addressed as an integral part of both short- and long-term responses to food insecurity, malnutrition, potential excessive price volatility and food crises in developing countries, as well as of the recognition and protection of the rights of smallholders, in particular women;

21. *Reaffirms* the crucial role of healthy marine ecosystems, sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture in enhancing food security and access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food and in providing for the livelihoods of millions of people, particularly inhabitants of small island developing States, and in this regard encourages the full implementation of the Global Action Programme on Food Security and Nutrition in Small Island Developing States, which was launched on 4 July 2017;

22. *Encourages and recognizes* the efforts at all levels to establish and strengthen social protection measures and programmes, including national safety nets and protection programmes for the needy and vulnerable, such as food and cash-for-work, cash transfer and voucher programmes, school feeding programmes and mother-and-child nutrition programmes, and in this regard underlines the importance of increasing investment, capacity-building and systems development;

23. *Remains deeply concerned* about the recurring food insecurity and malnutrition in different regions of the world and their ongoing negative impact on health and nutrition, especially in sub-Saharan Africa and South and West Asia, and in this regard underlines the urgent need for joint efforts at all levels to respond to the situation in a coherent and effective manner;

24. *Recognizes* the important role of indigenous peoples and local communities, small-scale farmers, family farmers, livestock farmers, small-scale fishers and fish workers and their traditional knowledge and seed supply systems, as well the important role of new technologies in the conservation of biodiversity and in aiming to ensure food security and improved nutrition;

25. *Stresses* the importance of the application of science, technology and innovation and related knowledge management and communications systems in ensuring food security by 2030, and encourages the adoption of the most advanced and appropriate information technology, such as the Internet, mobile platforms, meteorology, big data and cloud computing, in agriculture systems in order to support the efforts of smallholder and family farmers to increase their resilience, productivity and incomes and include them in the development of research and innovation agendas;

26. *Emphasizes* the need to revitalize the agriculture sector, promote rural development and aim for ensuring food security and nutrition, notably in developing countries, in a sustainable manner, which will contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and underlines the importance of taking the necessary actions to better address the needs of rural communities by, inter alia, enhancing access for agricultural producers, in particular small producers, women, youth, indigenous peoples and local communities, persons with disabilities and older persons, in conflict and post-conflict situations, to credit and other financial services, markets, secure land tenure, health-care services, social services, education, training, knowledge and appropriate and affordable technologies, including for development of local crops, efficient irrigation, reuse of treated wastewater and water harvesting and storage;

27. *Recognizes* that, by 2050, the world urban population is expected to nearly double, making urbanization one of the most transformative trends of the twenty-first century, underscoring the growing need to take action to fight hunger and malnutrition among the urban poor through promoting the integration of the food security and nutrition needs of urban residents, in particular the urban poor, in urban and territorial planning, to end hunger and malnutrition, promoting the coordination of sustainable food security and agriculture policies across urban, peri-urban and rural areas to facilitate the production, storage, transport and marketing of food to consumers in adequate and affordable ways, to reduce food losses and to prevent and reuse food waste, and promoting the coordination of food policies with energy, water, health, transport and waste and other policies in urban areas to maximize efficiencies and minimize waste;

28. *Reaffirms* the need to strive for a comprehensive twin-track approach to food security and nutrition that consists of direct action to immediately tackle hunger for the most vulnerable and medium- and long-term sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition and rural development programmes to eliminate the root causes of hunger and poverty, including through the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security;

29. *Also reaffirms* the need to promote a significant expansion of research on food, nutrition and agriculture, extension services, training and education, and of funding for such research from all sources, to improve agricultural productivity and sustainability in order to strengthen agriculture as a key sector, to promote development and to build up resilience to support better recovery from crisis, including by strengthening the work of the reformed Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research so as to enhance its development impact, supporting national research systems, public universities and research institutions and promoting technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, the voluntary sharing of knowledge and practices and research to adapt to climate change and improve equitable access to research results and technologies on mutually agreed terms at the national, regional and international levels, while giving due consideration to the preservation of genetic resources;

30. *Stresses* that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable, multilateral trading system will promote agriculture and rural development in developing countries and contribute to world food security and nutrition, and urges national, regional and international strategies to promote the inclusive participation of farmers and fishers and fish workers, especially small-scale farmers, including women, in community, national, regional and international markets;

31. *Recognizes* the efforts made by Member States and United Nations agencies that have already announced their commitments to the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025), and encourages all relevant stakeholders to actively support the implementation of the Decade, including by making commitments and establishing action networks;

32. *Looks forward* to the upcoming commencement of the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028), and in this regard encourages the full implementation of resolution 72/239, which supports the development, improvement and implementation of public policies on family farming;

33. *Stresses* the need to continue to strengthen cooperation and coordination among the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, the regional commissions and all other relevant entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions and international trade and economic institutions, including with the support of the Secretary-General's High-level Task Force on Global Food and Nutrition Security in accordance with their respective mandates, in order to increase their effectiveness, as well as to strengthen cooperation between these organizations and with non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors in promoting and strengthening efforts towards sustainable agriculture development, food security and nutrition;

34. *Notes* the International Fund for Agricultural Development initiative of organizing the first International Conference on South-South and Triangular Cooperation, on the theme “Leveraging Innovations from the Global South to Support Rural Transformation”, held in Brasilia on 20 and 21 November 2017;

35. *Looks forward* to the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, to be held in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019;

36. *Recognizes* the contribution made thus far by early warning systems, and underlines that the reliability and timeliness of such systems should be further strengthened at the national, regional and international levels, with a focus on countries that are particularly vulnerable to price shocks and food emergencies;

37. *Reaffirms* the important role and inclusive nature of the Committee on World Food Security as a major intergovernmental platform for a broad range of stakeholders to work together towards ensuring food security and nutrition for all, and notes the three main functions of policy convergence, lesson-sharing and progress review that the Committee performs in support of the integrated implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to ending hunger and malnutrition;

38. *Encourages* countries to give due consideration to the dissemination, promotion and implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,<sup>501</sup> as well as the voluntary Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems,<sup>500</sup> as endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security in 2012 and 2014, respectively;

39. *Also encourages* countries to fully engage in the ongoing development of the Committee on Food Security voluntary guidelines on food systems and nutrition supporting the transformation towards more sustainable food systems that safeguard the health and nutrition of populations;

40. *Further encourages* countries to give due consideration to the dissemination, promotion and implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 2004,<sup>507</sup> as well as the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 adopted by the General Assembly in 2017;<sup>499</sup>

41. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind, and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

42. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Agriculture development, food security and nutrition”, unless otherwise agreed.

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<sup>507</sup> E/CN.4/2005/131, annex.

## RESOLUTION 73/254

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/545, para. 11)<sup>508</sup> and as orally revised

### **73/254. Towards global partnerships: a principle-based approach to enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 55/215 of 21 December 2000, 56/76 of 11 December 2001, 58/129 of 19 December 2003, 60/215 of 22 December 2005, 62/211 of 19 December 2007, 64/223 of 21 December 2009, 66/223 of 22 December 2011, 68/234 of 20 December 2013 and 70/224 of 22 December 2015, as well as its decision 72/543 of 20 December 2017,

*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,

*Reaffirming further* its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and the general guidelines and principles contained therein, as well as 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, and welcoming the efforts of the Secretary-General to better position the United Nations operational activities for development to support countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Recalling* the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, in particular with regard to developing partnerships through the provision of greater opportunities to the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in general so as to enable them to contribute to the realization of the goals and programmes of the Organization, in particular in the pursuit of sustainable development and the eradication of poverty,

*Welcoming*, therefore, the contribution of all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, civil society, non-governmental organizations, philanthropic organizations, scientific and technological communities and academia, that respect and support, as appropriate, the core values and principles of the United Nations, to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals,

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<sup>508</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

*Emphasizing* that cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, in particular the private sector, can further contribute to addressing the obstacles confronted in particular by developing countries through responsible business practices, such as respecting the principles of the United Nations Global Compact and taking action, including by mobilizing the resources needed to finance sustainable development, and to realizing the internationally agreed development goals in developing countries,

*Noting* that the relevant stakeholders, including private sector entities, need information about and understanding of the nature and the scope of the Sustainable Development Goals and of the modalities by which they can engage with the Goals, and that, in this regard, decisive action is also imperative for raising awareness of the Goals at all levels,

*Recognizing* that, while progress is being made on the global engagement of the private sector regarding the Sustainable Development Goals at the level of perception and awareness as well as the inclusion of sustainability in their business models by some companies, the immense potential of support for the Goals, in particular by small and medium-sized enterprises, still represents a largely unutilized source for the full implementation of the Goals,

*Recognizing also* the unique position of the United Nations as a builder of bridges among countries and all stakeholders, and the progress achieved in the work of the United Nations on partnerships, notably in the framework of various United Nations organizations, agencies, funds, programmes, task forces, commissions and initiatives, and noting the establishment of partnerships at the field level entered into by various United Nations agencies, non-public partners and Member States, as well as multi-stakeholder partnerships,

*Underlining* the fact that cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, including the private sector, and all partnerships using the United Nations name or emblem shall serve the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and shall be undertaken in a manner that maintains and promotes the integrity, impartiality and independence of the Organization,

*Welcoming* the efforts and encouraging further efforts by all relevant partners, including the private sector, to engage as reliable and consistent partners in the development process and to take into account not only the economic and financial but also the development, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of their undertakings, and, in general, towards implementing corporate social and environmental responsibility, that is, bringing such values and responsibilities to bear on their conduct and policies premised on profit incentives, in conformity with national laws and regulations,

*Emphasizing* that multi-stakeholder partnerships in particular and the resources, knowledge and ingenuity of all relevant stakeholders will be important in mobilizing and sharing knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, complementing the efforts of Governments and supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular in developing countries,

*Welcoming*, in the context of enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all its relevant partners, including through multi-stakeholder partnerships, efforts to step up international cooperation and collaboration in science, research, technology and innovation on the basis of common interest and mutual benefit, focusing on the needs of developing countries and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Recalling* the Guidelines on a Principle-based Approach to the Cooperation between the United Nations and the Business Sector and their alignment with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework,<sup>509</sup>

*Recalling also* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development acknowledges that the implementation of sustainable development will depend on the active engagement of both the public and private sectors, and recognizing that the active participation of the private sector can contribute to the achievement of sustainable development, as well as recognizing the roles and contributions of civil society, the scientific and technological communities, non-governmental organizations and other relevant international organizations, including international financial institutions and multilateral development banks, in advancing sustainable development,

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<sup>509</sup> [A/HRC/17/31](#), annex.

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*Recognizing* the contributions of all relevant partners, including the private sector, in fostering stability and supporting recovery by creating job opportunities, advancing economic development, as well as infrastructure development, and, as appropriate, contributing to trust, reconciliation and security,

*Noting* that financial and economic crises demonstrate the need for values and principles in business, including for sustainable business practices, gender equality, social protection floors and the promotion of full and productive employment and decent work for all,

*Reaffirming* the principles of sustainable development, and underlining the global consensus reached on the key values and principles that will promote sustainable, fair, equitable and sustained economic development and that corporate social and environmental responsibility are important elements of that consensus,

*Recognizing* the continued efforts by the Development Cooperation Forum of the Economic and Social Council and other relevant forums to strengthen partnerships with the private sector and other stakeholders,

*Encouraging* the private sector in the context of enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all its relevant partners to enhance its involvement in combating climate change, and welcoming the commitments to leadership on climate action already made by relevant stakeholders,

*Recalling* that the high-level political forum on sustainable development has a central role in overseeing the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level, including with regard to partnerships,

*Stressing* the importance of the high-level political forum on sustainable development in supporting the participation in follow-up and review processes by the major groups and other relevant stakeholders pursuant to resolution 67/290 of 9 July 2013, and calling upon those actors to report on their contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Recognizing* the vital role that the United Nations Global Compact Office continues to play with regard to strengthening the capacity of the United Nations to partner strategically with the private sector, in accordance with its mandate from the General Assembly, to advance United Nations values and responsible business practices within the United Nations system and among the global business community, and in this regard noting the principles and initiatives of the United Nations Global Compact,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, in particular the private sector;<sup>510</sup>

2. *Acknowledges* that the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>511</sup> requires a strong commitment to partnership at all levels between Governments, the private sector, civil society and all other relevant stakeholders, and therefore recognizes the importance of the various contributions of all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector;

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled “The United Nations system: private sector partnerships arrangements in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”<sup>512</sup> and of the note by the Secretary-General in response to that report;<sup>513</sup>

4. *Stresses* that partnerships are voluntary and collaborative relationships between various parties, both public and non-public, in which all participants agree to work together to achieve a common purpose or undertake a specific task and, as mutually agreed, to share risks and responsibilities, resources and benefits;

5. *Also stresses* that partnerships will be critical to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, as an effective instrument for mobilizing additional human and financial resources, expertise, technology and

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<sup>510</sup> [A/73/326](#).

<sup>511</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>512</sup> [JIU/REP/2017/8](#).

<sup>513</sup> [A/73/186/Add.1](#).



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knowledge, while reiterating that partnerships are a complement to, but are not intended as a substitute for, the commitment made by Governments with a view to achieving the Goals;

6. *Further stresses* that partnerships should be consistent with national laws and national development strategies and plans, as well as the priorities of countries where they are implemented, bearing in mind the relevant guidance provided by Governments;

7. *Emphasizes* the vital role played by Governments in promoting responsible business practices, including providing and ensuring enforcement of the necessary legal and regulatory frameworks in accordance with national legislation and development priorities, and invites them to continue to provide support to United Nations efforts to engage with the private sector and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate;

8. *Recognizes* the vital role that the private sector plays in sustainable development, including by engaging in various partnership models, by generating decent employment as well as investment, by giving access to and developing new technologies, by offering technical vocational training activities and by stimulating sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth;

9. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Secretary-General to steer the United Nations system towards giving greater attention to longer-term, strategic and innovation-based multi-stakeholder partnerships in order to leverage private sector competencies and technologies, with a view to generating greater potential for innovation and increased impact on sustainable development, which is needed for the timely achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

10. *Emphasizes* that the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, and the executive heads of interested organizations should build on existing and ongoing efforts and continue to empower the United Nations Innovation Network or other existing United Nations joint innovation initiatives, such as the United Nations Technology Innovation Labs, to identify and discuss issues that are relevant for the coordination of the existing innovation initiatives, funds, laboratories, accelerators and incubators, and their interface with the private sector, with a view to facilitating and stimulating innovation in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

11. *Encourages* the United Nations funds and programmes to continue to actively engage with other stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector and foundations, with a view to diversifying potential sources of funding, especially core funding, for their operational activities for development, in alignment with the core principles of the United Nations development system and with full respect for the national priorities of programme countries;

12. *Recognizes* that these partnerships should give priority to core resources, while noting the need to make non-core resources from partners flexible and aligned with strategic plans and national priorities;

13. *Stresses* that greater effort is required to unlock new financial flows, including from mainstream institutional investors, for the timely implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as a complement to public finance and international development cooperation;

14. *Welcomes* the growing number of businesses that embrace a core business model that takes account of the environmental, social and governance impacts of their activities, encourages and urges all businesses to adopt principles for responsible business and investing, and supports the work of the United Nations Global Compact in this regard;

15. *Calls upon* the United Nations funds, programmes and the specialized agencies, at the request of national Governments, to improve their support for the building, development and strengthening of national 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, in assisting Governments in leveraging partnerships;

16. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to further improve the collaboration of the United Nations with all relevant partners, including the private sector, and recognizes his efforts to strengthen the capacities of the United Nations system, including by mainstreaming understanding of the role of partnerships throughout the system, and to discuss the potential for further strengthening of cooperation and coordination across the United Nations system with regard to partnerships, with a view to enhancing the results achieved through them, while acknowledging the importance of continued consultations with Member States;

#### IV. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Second Committee

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17. *Also welcomes* the commitment of the Secretary-General to continuing to retain the integrity and unique role of the United Nations Global Compact, and underlines the importance of integrity measures as taken and advocated by the United Nations Global Compact;

18. *Invites* the United Nations system, when considering partnerships, to seek to engage in a more coherent manner with private sector entities, including micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, that support the core values of the United Nations, as reflected in the Charter of the United Nations and other relevant conventions and treaties, and that commit to the principles of the United Nations Global Compact by translating them into operational corporate policies, codes of conduct, and management, monitoring and reporting systems;

19. *Recalls* the request to the Secretary-General, in this regard, as appropriate, in collaboration with the funds and programmes, the specialized agencies and other relevant United Nations entities and mechanisms, to disclose the partners, contributions and matching funds for all relevant partnerships, including at the country level, and to ensure that these elements are coherently reflected in the reporting of partnership activities by the United Nations funds, programmes and, as appropriate, agencies to their respective governing bodies;

20. *Stresses* the need for the United Nations system to continue its efforts to develop, for those partnerships in which it participates, a common and coherent approach across the United Nations system that places greater emphasis on transparency, impact, accountability, due diligence and risk management, while taking into account the specific mandates of United Nations agencies, programmes and other entities and without imposing undue rigidity in partnership agreements;

21. *Acknowledges* the importance of corporate sustainability reporting, encourages companies, especially publicly listed and large companies, to integrate sustainability and due diligence information into their reporting cycles, encourages industry, interested Governments and relevant stakeholders, with the support of the United Nations system, as appropriate, to enhance existing models and develop new models for best practice and to facilitate action for the integration of sustainability reporting, taking into account experiences from already existing frameworks and paying particular attention to the needs of developing countries, including for capacity-building, and welcomes in this context the collaboration of the United Nations Global Compact with the Global Reporting Initiative and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to promote effective implementation of the Guidelines on a Principle-based Approach to the Cooperation between the United Nations and the Business Sector;

23. *Encourages* the international community to strengthen global partnerships to foster youth employment and promote frameworks for action, including the Global Jobs Pact of the International Labour Organization, the Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth and the call for action on youth employment, in accordance with national plans and priorities;

24. *Invites* the academic, research and scientific communities to contribute to the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in this regard recognizes the important role of the United Nations Academic Impact, among other initiatives, and to support and participate in multi-stakeholder partnerships to this end;

25. *Notes with appreciation* the convening of the annual United Nations Private Sector Forum as well as the Sustainable Development Goals business forum, organized by the United Nations and the International Chamber of Commerce to foster the implementation of the Goals;

26. *Recognizes* the work and the important role of the Global Compact Local Networks in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development locally;

27. *Also recognizes* the importance of cooperation between the United Nations system at the local level, including the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, and all relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, in alignment with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, to support the coordination and application of global partnerships;

28. *Further recognizes* that the Global Compact Local Networks provide an avenue for diffusing United Nations values and principles and facilitating partnerships with business on a broad scale;

29. *Stresses* the importance of developing national strategies for the promotion of sustainable, inclusive and productive entrepreneurial activities through partnerships, encourages Governments to create a climate that is

conducive to increasing the number of women entrepreneurs and the size of their businesses, and to prevent discrimination, sexual harassment and abuse in the workplace, requests the United Nations Global Compact to promote the Women's Empowerment Principles and to encourage the Global Compact Local Networks to create awareness of the many ways in which business can promote gender equality in the workplace, marketplace and community, and encourages the private sector to contribute to advancing gender equality;

30. *Takes note* of the work of the United Nations private sector focal points network, and encourages the network to promote greater coherence and capacity-building within the Organization on activities involving business and disseminating innovations in engagement across the system, as well as the holding of annual meetings of United Nations system private sector focal points, which remain important forums for the exchange of best practices, lessons learned and innovations in partnerships with the private sector;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-sixth session the item entitled "Towards global partnerships", unless otherwise agreed.

### RESOLUTION 73/255

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/546, para. 16),<sup>514</sup> by a recorded vote of 159 to 7, with 13 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Australia, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Togo, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

#### **73/255. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 72/240 of 20 December 2017, and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/20 of 24 July 2018,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 58/292 of 6 May 2004 and 59/251 of 22 December 2004,

*Reaffirming* the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources,

<sup>514</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Turkey.

*Guided* by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980, 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981 and 2334 (2016) of 23 December 2016,

*Recalling* its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

*Bearing in mind* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

*Reaffirming* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,<sup>515</sup> to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

*Recalling*, in this regard, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>516</sup> and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>516</sup> and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as in the occupied Syrian Golan,

*Recalling also* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,<sup>517</sup> and recalling further its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

*Recalling further* its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012,

*Taking note* of the accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law treaties, as well as to other international treaties,

*Expressing its concern* about the exploitation by Israel, the occupying Power, of the natural resources of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

*Expressing its grave concern* about the extensive destruction by Israel, the occupying Power, of agricultural land and orchards in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including the uprooting of a vast number of fruit-bearing trees and the destruction of farms and greenhouses, and the grave environmental and economic impact in this regard,

*Expressing its grave concern also* about the widespread destruction caused by Israel, the occupying Power, to vital infrastructure, including water pipelines, sewage networks and electricity networks, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in particular in the Gaza Strip during the military operations of July and August 2014, which, inter alia, has polluted the environment and which negatively affects the functioning of water and sanitation systems and the water supply and other natural resources of the Palestinian people, and stressing the urgency of the reconstruction and development of water and other vital civilian infrastructure, including the project for the desalination facility for the Gaza Strip,

*Expressing its grave concern further* about the negative impact on the environment and on reconstruction and development efforts of unexploded ordnance that remains in the Gaza Strip as a result of the conflict in July and August 2014, and commending the efforts of the Mine Action Service of the United Nations for the safe removal of such ordnance,

*Expressing its grave concern* about the chronic energy shortage in the Gaza Strip and its detrimental impact on the operation of water and sanitation facilities, which threaten to further erode groundwater resources, of which only 5 per cent remains potable,

*Recalling* the 2009 report by the United Nations Environment Programme regarding the grave environmental situation in the Gaza Strip, and relevant reports by the United Nations country team, including

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<sup>515</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

<sup>516</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>517</sup> See A/ES-10/273 and A/ES-10/273/Corr.1.

“Gaza in 2020: a liveable place?”, “Gaza: two years after” and “Gaza ten years later”, and stressing the need for follow-up to the recommendations contained therein,

*Deploing* the detrimental impact of the Israeli settlements on Palestinian and other Arab natural resources, especially as a result of the confiscation of land and the forced diversion of water resources, including the destruction of orchards and crops and the seizure of water wells by Israeli settlers, and of the dire socioeconomic consequences in this regard,

*Recalling* the report of the independent international fact-finding mission to investigate the implications of the Israeli settlements on the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,<sup>518</sup>

*Aware* of the detrimental impact on Palestinian natural resources being caused by the unlawful construction of the wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and of its grave effect as well on the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people,

*Stressing* the urgency of achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement on all tracks, on the basis of Security Council resolutions [242 \(1967\)](#), [338 \(1973\)](#) of 22 October 1973, [425 \(1978\)](#) of 19 March 1978, [1397 \(2002\)](#) of 12 March 2002 and [2334 \(2016\)](#), the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative<sup>519</sup> and the Quartet performance-based road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,<sup>520</sup> as endorsed by the Council in its resolution [1515 \(2003\)](#) of 19 November 2003 and supported by the Council in its resolution [1850 \(2008\)](#) of 16 December 2008,

*Stressing also*, in this regard, the need for respect for the obligation upon Israel under the road map to freeze settlement activity, including so-called “natural growth”, and to dismantle all settlement outposts erected since March 2001,

*Stressing further* the need for respect and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

*Recalling* that the Security Council, in its resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#), underlined that it would not recognize any changes to the 4 June 1967 lines, including with regard to Jerusalem, other than those agreed by the parties through negotiations,

*Recalling also* the need to end all acts of violence, including acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction,

*Taking note* of the report prepared by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan, as transmitted by the Secretary-General,<sup>521</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and of the population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources, including land, water and energy resources;
2. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease the exploitation, damage, cause of loss or depletion and endangerment of the natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;
3. *Recognizes* the right of the Palestinian people to claim restitution as a result of any exploitation, damage, loss or depletion or endangerment of their natural resources resulting from illegal measures taken by Israel, the occupying Power, and Israeli settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

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<sup>518</sup> [A/HRC/22/63](#).

<sup>519</sup> [A/56/1026-S/2002/932](#), annex II, resolution 14/221.

<sup>520</sup> [S/2003/529](#), annex.

<sup>521</sup> [A/73/87-E/2018/69](#).

and expresses the hope that this issue will be dealt with within the framework of the final status negotiations between the Palestinian and Israeli sides;

4. *Stresses* that the wall and settlements being constructed by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, are contrary to international law and are seriously depriving the Palestinian people of their natural resources, and calls in this regard for full compliance with the legal obligations affirmed in the 9 July 2004 advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice<sup>517</sup> and in relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution [ES-10/15](#);

5. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, and to cease immediately and completely all policies and measures aimed at the alteration of the character and status of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

6. *Also calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to bring a halt to all actions, including those perpetrated by Israeli settlers, harming the environment, including the dumping of all kinds of waste materials, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, which gravely threaten their natural resources, namely water and land resources, and which pose an environmental, sanitation and health threat to the civilian populations;

7. *Further calls upon* Israel to cease its destruction of vital infrastructure, including water pipelines, sewage networks and electricity networks, and to cease its demolition and confiscation of Palestinian homes and civilian infrastructure, agricultural lands and water wells, which, inter alia, have a negative impact on the natural resources of the Palestinian people, stresses the urgent need to advance reconstruction and development projects in this regard, including in the Gaza Strip, and calls for support for the necessary efforts in this regard, in line with the commitments made at, inter alia, the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, held on 12 October 2014;

8. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to remove all obstacles to the implementation of critical environmental projects, including sewage treatment plants in the Gaza Strip and the reconstruction and development of water infrastructure, including the project for the desalination facility for the Gaza Strip;

9. *Also calls upon* Israel not to impede Palestinian development and export of discovered oil and natural gas reserves;

10. *Calls for* the immediate and safe removal of all unexploded ordnance in the Gaza Strip and for support for the efforts of the Mine Action Service of the United Nations in this regard, and welcomes the extensive efforts exerted by the Mine Action Service to date;

11. *Encourages* all States and international organizations to continue to actively pursue policies to ensure respect for their obligations under international law with regard to all illegal Israeli practices and measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly Israeli settlement activities and the exploitation of natural resources;

12. *Underscores*, in this regard, the call by the Security Council, in its resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#), upon all States to distinguish, in their relevant dealings, between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied since 1967;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including with regard to the cumulative impact of the exploitation, damage and depletion by Israel of natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and with regard to the impact of such practices on the promotion of the Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>522</sup> and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources”.

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<sup>522</sup> See resolution [70/1](#).



**RESOLUTION 73/260**

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/538/Add.7, para. 19)<sup>523</sup>

**73/260. Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the mandate contained in its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, by which it established the United Nations Environment Programme, and other relevant resolutions that reinforce its mandate, as well as the 1997 Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme of 7 February 1997,<sup>524</sup> the Malmö Ministerial Declaration of 31 May 2000<sup>525</sup> and the Nusa Dua Declaration of 26 February 2010,<sup>526</sup>

*Reaffirming also* its commitment to strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment,

*Recalling* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held from 20 to 22 June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>527</sup> and noting the follow-up on paragraph 88, subparagraphs (a) to (h), of the outcome document, including through General Assembly resolution 67/213 of 21 December 2012,

*Recalling also* the establishment of universal membership in the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, as well as other measures to strengthen its governance and its responsiveness and accountability to Member States, the attendant change of its designation to the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme and the evolution in the periodicity of its sessions,

*Recalling further* its resolutions 68/215 of 20 December 2013, 69/223 of 19 December 2014 and 71/231 of 21 December 2016,

*Reaffirming* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development<sup>528</sup> and its principles,

*Taking into account* Agenda 21<sup>529</sup> and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,<sup>530</sup>

*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome<sup>531</sup> and the outcome document of the special event of the General Assembly to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,<sup>532</sup>

*Recalling also* the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building,<sup>533</sup>

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<sup>523</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

<sup>524</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/52/25)*, annex, decision 19/1, annex.

<sup>525</sup> *Ibid.*, *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/55/25)*, annex I, decision SS.VI/1, annex.

<sup>526</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/65/25)*, annex I, decision SS.XI/9.

<sup>527</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>528</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>529</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>530</sup> *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 2, annex.

<sup>531</sup> Resolution 60/1.

<sup>532</sup> Resolution 68/6.

<sup>533</sup> United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1 and UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1/Corr.1, annex.

*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,

*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement,<sup>534</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>535</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Highlighting* the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement,

*Looking forward* to the Secretary-General’s climate summit in 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change,

*Taking note* of 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,

*Committed* to strengthening international environmental governance within the context of the institutional framework for sustainable development in order to promote a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development as well as coordination within the United Nations system,

*Committed also* to enhancing the voice of the United Nations Environment Programme and its ability to fulfil its coordination mandate within the United Nations system by strengthening its engagement in key United Nations coordination bodies and empowering it to lead efforts to formulate United Nations system-wide strategies on the environment,

*Recognizing* the important contribution of the United Nations Environment Assembly to the 2018 high-level political forum on sustainable development, which met under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council from 9 to 18 July in New York and undertook an in-depth review of progress on a subset of 6 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals,

*Reiterating* the need for secure, stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for the United Nations Environment Programme, and, in accordance with resolution 2997 (XXVII), underlining the need to consider the adequate reflection of all the administrative and management costs of the Programme in the context of the United Nations regular budget, as well as the need to realize efficiency gains,

*Reaffirming* the commitments, as contained in the ministerial outcome document of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, held in Nairobi from 23 to 27 June 2014,<sup>536</sup> inter alia, to ensure the full integration of the environmental dimension, especially throughout the sustainable development agenda, acknowledging that a healthy environment is an essential requirement and key enabler for sustainable development,

*Reiterating* the need to develop and expand partnerships, including between Governments, the private sector, academia, relevant United Nations entities and programmes, indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society and individuals,

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<sup>534</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>535</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>536</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/69/25)*, annex, resolution 1/1.

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the third session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi from 4 to 6 December 2017, also welcomes the report on the session and the resolutions and decisions contained therein,<sup>537</sup> and looks forward to the convening of the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly from 11 to 15 March 2019;
2. *Reiterates* the ministerial declaration entitled “Towards a pollution-free planet”<sup>538</sup> adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its third session, and reaffirms that addressing pollution is a crucial element for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>539</sup> and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;
3. *Welcomes* the continued commitment of the United Nations Environment Assembly to contributing to the effective implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in an integrated manner, as reflected in its resolutions 2/5 of 27 May 2016<sup>540</sup> and 3/3 of 6 December 2017<sup>541</sup> on the contributions of the United Nations Environment Assembly to the high-level political forum on sustainable development;
4. *Commends* the President and the Bureau of the Economic and Social Council for supporting and facilitating the effective integration of the contributions of the United Nations Environment Assembly into the preparation, work and proceedings of, and the participation of the President of the Environment Assembly in, the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council;
5. *Encourages* the President of the United Nations Environment Assembly to continue to convey the main messages agreed upon by the Environment Assembly at its sessions during the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, as appropriate, taking into account the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as General Assembly resolutions 67/290 of 9 July 2013 and 70/299 of 29 July 2016;
6. *Looks forward* to the contributions of the United Nations Environment Assembly to the lead-up, inputs and meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the General Assembly in 2019;
7. *Reiterates* that capacity-building and technology support to developing countries in environment-related fields are important components of the work of the United Nations Environment Programme, and in this regard calls for the continued and focused implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building<sup>533</sup> adopted by the Programme;
8. *Also reiterates* the continuing need for the United Nations Environment Programme to conduct up-to-date, comprehensive, scientifically based and policy-relevant global environmental assessments, in close consultation with Member States, in order to support decision-making processes at all levels;
9. *Expresses concern* about the sustainability, predictability and stability of the funding of the United Nations Environment Programme governing body, and requests the Secretary-General to make proposals, as appropriate;
10. *Notes* the request by the United Nations Environment Assembly to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to provide options to secure the participation of developing countries in the Environment Assembly;<sup>542</sup>
11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, the sub-item entitled “Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme”, unless otherwise agreed.

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<sup>537</sup> Ibid., *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/73/25)*.

<sup>538</sup> [UNEP/EA.3/HLS.1](#).

<sup>539</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>540</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/71/25)*, annex, resolution 2/5.

<sup>541</sup> Ibid., *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/73/25)*, annex, resolution 3/3.

<sup>542</sup> Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/69/25)*, annex, resolution 1/15.



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## RESOLUTION 73/140

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/581, para. 31)<sup>1</sup>

### 73/140. Volunteering for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 70/129 of 17 December 2015, entitled “Integrating volunteering into peace and development: the plan of action for the next decade and beyond”,

*Welcoming* the integration of volunteerism into all relevant issues considered at the United Nations, in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>2</sup> in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, as well as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>3</sup> in which it is acknowledged that volunteers and other stakeholders will be important to mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, complement the efforts of Governments and support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular in developing countries,

*Recognizing* that volunteerism can be a powerful and cross-cutting means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, that it can help to expand and mobilize constituencies and engage people in the national planning and implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and that volunteer groups can help to localize the Agenda by providing new areas of interaction between Governments and people for concrete and scalable actions,

*Acknowledging* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development creates unprecedented global and national urgency to accelerate progress in the recognition, promotion, facilitation, networking and integration of volunteer action by and between Governments, communities, civil society, the private sector, academia, the media and international actors, including the United Nations system,

*Acknowledging also* the existing contribution of the organizations of the United Nations system in support of volunteering, especially the work of the United Nations Volunteers programme around the world, acknowledging further the efforts of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to promote volunteerism throughout its global network, noting the work of other volunteer-involving organizations at the local, national, regional and global levels, and acknowledging the important role of civil society in facilitating volunteering,

*Welcoming* the publication by the United Nations Volunteers programme of the report entitled *2018 State of the World's Volunteerism Report: The Thread that Binds – Volunteerism and Community Resilience*, which presents new evidence on the role of volunteerism, especially through equitable and inclusive compacts between local volunteers and other communities, actors and organizations in strengthening community resilience, voice and inclusion in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

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<sup>1</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam and Zambia.

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>3</sup> Resolution 69/313, annex.

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the plan of action to integrate volunteering into the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>4</sup>
2. *Recognizes* the importance of integrating volunteerism, as appropriate, into the planning for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>2</sup> and encourages the United Nations system, civil society and the private sector, in partnership with Member States, to support such efforts and promote a conducive environment for volunteerism and volunteers to enhance the sustainability of development results;
3. *Encourages* Governments, in partnership with United Nations entities, volunteer-involving organizations, the private sector, civil society, including academia, and other stakeholders, as appropriate, to integrate volunteerism into national development strategies, plans and policies, United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks or equivalent planning frameworks;
4. *Encourages* the meaningful participation and integration of all people, including youth, older persons, women, migrants, refugees, persons with disabilities, minorities and other marginalized groups, into volunteer-involving programmes and projects, with the provision of the appropriate means to leverage the full potential of volunteerism;
5. *Commends* the Member States that highlighted the contributions of volunteers to the Sustainable Development Goals in their voluntary national reviews for the high-level political forum on sustainable development held in 2016, 2017 and 2018, and encourages all Member States to increasingly cooperate with volunteer-involving and civil society organizations, to include information on the scale, contribution and impact of volunteerism in future voluntary national reviews and engage volunteers for the monitoring of progress towards achieving the Goals at the national and subnational levels and as part of wider citizen engagement;
6. *Encourages* all Member States to invest in measuring the scale and contribution of people's voluntary efforts, in line with the nineteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians standard on volunteer work and the International Labour Organization *Manual on the Measurement of Volunteer Work*, and to collect and utilize high-quality data disaggregated by sex, age and disability to support and integrate volunteerism into national strategies and to measure its impact on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
7. *Commends* all volunteers globally – formal, informal, community, national, international, online, youth and older volunteers – for their contributions to the delivery of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
8. *Requests* Member States and the United Nations system to work together with volunteer-involving organizations, including from civil society, to support efforts to enhance the protection, security and well-being of volunteers, calls upon States to create and maintain, in law and in practice, a safe and enabling environment for volunteers, and encourages the adoption of good practices in the promotion, facilitation and, where applicable, management of volunteerism;
9. *Reaffirms* the institutional arrangements to implement the plan of action to integrate volunteering into the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which are consistent with and complement existing global review mechanisms on the Sustainable Development Goals and build upon and are complemented by independent forums and processes that maximize the participation, voice and contributions of volunteers, and, in particular:
  - (a) Encourages Member States to continue to work with national and local partners to prepare an analysis of volunteering at the national level before the end of 2018;
  - (b) Welcomes that national-level analysis will be inputs for regional consultations on volunteering in 2019, and requests that these regional consultations be held under the auspices of the regional commissions of the United Nations in the context of the regional forums on sustainable development, providing an opportunity for Member States and partners to discuss evidence and approaches, identify opportunities for addressing knowledge gaps and ensure, among other things, that national and regional inputs into the high-level political forum on sustainable development take account of volunteer contributions to the 2030 Agenda;
  - (c) Encourages civil society, academia and the private sector, and especially volunteer-involving organizations, to use all existing forums and processes, in accordance with the rules and mandates of such forums and processes, to increase consultations on trends, evidence and approaches on volunteer contributions to the 2030 Agenda and the plan of action;

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<sup>4</sup> A/73/254.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

(d) Requests the United Nations Volunteers programme, and invites the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, to jointly organize the global technical meeting to be held in 2020 on the theme “Reimagining volunteerism for the 2030 Agenda”, building upon the foundations provided by the processes highlighted above, to further strengthen the engagement and contributions of volunteers with regard to the 2030 Agenda, and requests that this meeting be held as a special event on the margins of the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2020;

10. *Recognizes* the United Nations Volunteers programme as the appropriate United Nations entity to support the implementation of the plan of action, and expects the programme to coordinate the work to consolidate and disseminate good practices and lessons learned, promote successful volunteer actions and ensure that the differentiated impact of volunteers on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is documented as part of regular national policy, planning and implementation practices;

11. *Also recognizes* the role of information and communications technologies in expanding innovative forms of volunteering, and encourages Governments, the private sector, civil society and other stakeholders to support online volunteering, including United Nations online volunteering that provides inclusive technology-enabled global platforms;

12. *Further recognizes* the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteers as the resource enabling the United Nations Volunteers programme to support the implementation of the plan of action, as well as develop initiatives that embed the values of volunteerism in the work of Governments and the United Nations system, and encourages Member States in a position to do so to enhance their contributions to the Fund, thereby ensuring continuing activities;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including the plan of action to integrate volunteering into the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, under the item entitled “Social development”.

### RESOLUTION 73/141

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/581, para. 31),<sup>5</sup> by a recorded vote of 188 to 3, with no abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, Papua New Guinea, United States of America

*Abstaining:* None

<sup>5</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Estonia, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

**73/141. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* all previous resolutions on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, including resolution [72/141](#) of 19 December 2017,

*Recalling* the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world”, held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

*Reaffirming* that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development<sup>6</sup> and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session,<sup>7</sup> as well as a continued global dialogue on social development issues, constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

*Welcoming* the progress made towards the full implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action through concerted action at the national, regional and global levels, and expressing its deep concern that, more than 20 years after the convening of the World Summit for Social Development, progress has been slow and uneven, and major gaps remain,

*Welcoming also* the adoption, in its entirety, of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>8</sup> in which it is recognized that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development,

*Reaffirming* the need to achieve sustainable development by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities within and among countries, raising basic standards of living and fostering equitable and inclusive social development and the sustainable management of natural resources,

*Recognizing* that the three core themes of social development, namely, poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration, are interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and that an enabling environment therefore needs to be created so that all three objectives can be pursued simultaneously,

*Emphasizing* the need to enhance the role of the Commission for Social Development in the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, and welcoming the decision of the Economic and Social Council that the Commission, given its mandates and experience in promoting people-centred inclusive development, will report on social aspects related to the agreed main theme of the Council in order to contribute to its work,<sup>9</sup> including by offering inputs regarding the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in a holistic and inclusive manner,

*Welcoming* the decision of the Economic and Social Council that the Commission for Social Development will consider one priority theme at each session on the basis of the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and its linkages to the social dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, proposing an action-oriented resolution with recommendations to the Council in order to contribute to its work, and that the priority theme for the 2019 session, which shall allow the Commission to contribute to the work of the Council, will be “Addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies”,<sup>10</sup>

*Recalling* the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the 2018 session of the Economic and Social Council on the annual theme “From global to local: supporting sustainable and resilient societies in urban and

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<sup>6</sup> *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution I, annexes I and II.

<sup>7</sup> Resolution [S-24/2](#), annex.

<sup>8</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>9</sup> Economic and Social Council resolution [2016/6](#), para. 3.

<sup>10</sup> Economic and Social Council resolution [2018/3](#), paras. 4 and 9.

rural communities” and the ministerial declaration of the 2018 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, on the theme “Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies”,<sup>11</sup>

*Affirming* that the Declaration on the Right to Development<sup>12</sup> also informs the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, along with other relevant instruments, such as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>13</sup> Agenda 2063 adopted by the African Union and the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization,<sup>14</sup> and reaffirming also 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,

*Affirming* its strong support for fair globalization and the need to translate growth into the reduction of inequalities, eradication of poverty and commitment to strategies and policies that aim to promote full, freely chosen and productive employment and decent work for all and that these strategies and policies should constitute fundamental components of relevant national and international policies and national development strategies, including inequality and poverty reduction strategies, reaffirming that employment creation and decent work for all should be incorporated into macroeconomic policies, taking fully into account the impact and social dimension of globalization, the benefits and costs of which are often unevenly shared and distributed, and noting in this regard that the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, with its four strategic objectives, has an important role to play in achieving the objective of social protection and elimination of inequalities, as reaffirmed in the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization,

*Recognizing* that although income inequality between countries remains at a high level, it has been declining, while trends in income inequality within countries present a mixed picture, with many countries experiencing a significant rise in recent decades and others having successfully reduced both income and non-income inequalities, although their levels remain high, and emphasizing that addressing inequality in all its dimensions is essential to eradicating poverty, advancing social development and achieving sustainable development,

*Recognizing also* that social inclusion is a means for achieving social integration and is crucial for fostering stable, safe, harmonious, peaceful and just societies and for improving social cohesion so as to create an environment for development and progress,

*Recognizing further* that the remaining effects of the world financial and economic crisis have the potential to undermine progress towards achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and threaten debt sustainability in many countries, especially developing countries,

*Deeply concerned* that extreme poverty and the feminization of poverty persist in all countries of the world, regardless of their economic, social and cultural situation, and that the extent and manifestations thereof, such as hunger and malnutrition, vulnerability to trafficking in persons, forced and child labour, disease, lack of adequate shelter and illiteracy, are heightened in developing countries and particularly severe in least developed countries, while acknowledging the significant progress made in several parts of the world in combating extreme poverty,

*Stressing* the importance of removing obstacles to the realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, in particular of peoples living under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, which adversely affect their social and economic development, including their exclusion from labour markets,

*Stressing also* the importance of establishing a just and lasting peace all over the world in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, supporting all efforts to uphold the sovereign equality of all States and respect their territorial integrity and political independence, and refraining in international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Recognizing* that terrorism, trafficking in arms, organized crime, trafficking in persons, money-laundering, ethnic and religious conflict, civil war, politically motivated killing and genocide pose increasing challenges to States

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<sup>11</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/73/3)*, chap. VI, sect. F.

<sup>12</sup> Resolution 41/128, annex.

<sup>13</sup> Resolution 69/313, annex.

<sup>14</sup> [A/63/538-E/2009/4](#), annex.



and societies in the attainment of conditions conducive to social development, including reduction of inequalities, and that they further present urgent and compelling reasons for action by Governments individually and, as appropriate, jointly to foster social cohesion while recognizing, protecting and valuing diversity,

*Recognizing also* all recent efforts to promote the meaningful and inclusive participation of youth in building their societies, including the convening of the first World Youth Forum in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 4 to 10 November 2017 as a platform for discussion among youth from all over the world,

*Noting with concern* that, according to the report of the International Labour Organization entitled *Global Employment Trends for Youth 2017*, although there has been a modest economic recovery, youth unemployment remains high and employment quality remains a concern, and young people are three times as likely as adults to be unemployed, which constitutes a serious global problem,

*Recognizing* that, since the convening of the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995, advances have been made in addressing and promoting social integration, including through the adoption of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,<sup>15</sup> the World Programme of Action for Youth,<sup>16</sup> the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>17</sup> the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples<sup>18</sup> and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,<sup>19</sup>

*Welcoming* the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015–2024), which urges Member States to promote the social development of people of African descent, particularly women and girls, by eradicating any form of discrimination, ensuring access to quality education and eliminating challenges and specific risks with regard to health,

*Reaffirming* the commitment to promoting the rights of indigenous peoples in the areas of education, employment, housing, sanitation, health and social protection and social security, and noting the attention paid to those areas in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>20</sup>

2. *Welcomes* the reaffirmation by Governments of their will and commitment to continue implementing the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,<sup>6</sup> in particular to promote equality and social justice, eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and decent work for all and foster social integration to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all, and recognizes that the implementation of the Copenhagen commitments and the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals are mutually reinforcing;

3. *Reaffirms* its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>8</sup> and its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced, holistic and integrated manner;

4. *Recognizes* that poverty is a multidimensional phenomenon, and invites Member States to develop comprehensive, integrated and coherent poverty eradication strategies that effectively address the structural causes of poverty and inequality with an emphasis on job-rich growth; address and meet the basic human needs of people living in poverty; ensure their access to quality education, nutrition, health, water, sanitation, housing and other public social services, access to employment and decent work for all, as well as access to productive resources, including credit, land, training, technology and knowledge; and ensure their participation in decision-making on social and economic development policies and programmes in this regard;

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<sup>15</sup> *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution I, annex II.

<sup>16</sup> Resolution 50/81, annex, and resolution 62/126, annex.

<sup>17</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>18</sup> Resolution 61/295, annex.

<sup>19</sup> *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 I, annexes I and II.

<sup>20</sup> A/73/214.



## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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5. *Emphasizes* that the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit, the International Conference on Financing for Development, in its Monterrey Consensus,<sup>21</sup> the 2005 World Summit, the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, in its Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,<sup>22</sup> the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the 2013 special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, the third International Conference on Financing for Development, in its Addis Ababa Action Agenda,<sup>23</sup> and the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, have reinforced the priority and urgency of the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions within the United Nations development agenda;

6. *Recognizes* the complex character of the ongoing food insecurity situation, including food price volatility, as a combination of several major factors, both structural and conjunctural, which is also negatively affected by, inter alia, environmental degradation, drought and desertification, global climate change, natural disasters, the lack of the necessary technology and armed conflicts, and also recognizes that a strong commitment from national Governments and the international community as a whole is required to confront the major threats to food security and to ensure that policies in the area of agriculture do not distort trade and worsen food insecurity;

7. *Reaffirms* the importance of supporting the African Union's development framework, Agenda 2063, as well as its 10-year plan of action, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years, which is the African Union long-term strategy emphasizing industrialization, youth employment, improved natural resource governance and the reduction of inequalities, and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development<sup>23</sup> and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme;

8. *Stresses* that the benefits of economic growth should be inclusive and distributed more equitably and that, in order to close the gap of inequality and avoid any further deepening of inequality, comprehensive social policies and programmes, including appropriate social transfer and job creation programmes and social protection systems, are needed;

9. *Reaffirms* that social integration policies should seek to reduce inequalities, promote access to basic social services, education for all and health care, eliminate discrimination, increase the participation and integration of social groups, particularly young people, older persons and persons with disabilities, noting the role of sports in this regard, and address the challenges posed to social development by globalization and market-driven reforms in order for all people in all countries to benefit from globalization;

10. *Stresses* that an enabling environment is a critical precondition for achieving equity and social development and that, while economic growth is essential, entrenched inequality and marginalization are an obstacle to the broad-based and sustained growth required for sustainable, inclusive and people-centred development, and recognizes the need to balance and ensure complementarity between measures to achieve growth and measures to achieve economic and social equity and inclusion in order for there to be an impact on overall poverty levels;

11. *Supports* the development of vertical and horizontal models of distribution of financial resources to decrease inequalities across subnational territories, within urban centres and between urban and rural areas, as well as to promote integrated and balanced territorial development, and reaffirms the importance of improving the transparency of data on spending and resource allocation as a tool for assessing progress towards equity and spatial integration;

12. *Acknowledges* that investment in human capital and social protection has been proven to be effective in reducing poverty and inequality, and invites Member States to mobilize innovative sources of financing, including through public-private partnerships, to secure adequate levels of social expenditure necessary for expanding coverage towards universal access to health, education, innovation, new technologies and basic social protection and to address the issues of illicit financial flows and corruption;

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<sup>21</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>22</sup> Resolution 63/239, annex.

<sup>23</sup> [A/57/304](#), annex.

13. *Stresses* that international trade and stable financial systems can be effective tools to create favourable conditions for the development of all countries and that trade barriers and some trading practices continue to have negative effects on employment growth, particularly in developing countries, that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels and the need to promote respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development, the reduction of inequalities, the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition and for addressing the most pressing social needs of people living in poverty, and in this regard also stresses the importance of economic, social and cultural rights and the importance of the principles of non-discrimination, inclusivity and meaningful participation for the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development;

14. *Acknowledges* that inequalities persist within and among countries, posing significant challenges to social cohesion, reaffirms that the eradication of poverty, promotion of prosperity, gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the reduction of inequality within and among countries are fundamental to achieving sustainable development for all, and that this requires collective and transformative efforts to leave no one behind and put the furthest behind first, and adapt institutions and policies to take into account the multidimensional nature of inequality and poverty and the inherent interlinkages between different Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in this regard:

**Inequality in access to opportunities**

(a) Calls upon Governments, the international community and other relevant actors to ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and actions in this regard;

(b) Encourages Governments and the international community to learn from the experiences and good practices that have successfully reduced inequalities and adopt an appropriate mix of policies, including macroeconomic, fiscal, wage, employment, labour market, financial inclusion and social protection policies, that have proven to be effective in promoting inclusive growth and progressively reducing inequality in opportunities and access to basic services, and ensure the synergies between those policies;

(c) Urges Member States to strengthen social policies, as appropriate, paying particular attention to the specific needs of disadvantaged and marginalized social groups, inter alia, women, children, youth, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV/AIDS, older persons, indigenous peoples, refugees, internally displaced persons, migrants and other persons in vulnerable situations, as well as to address all forms of violence in its many manifestations, including domestic violence, and discrimination, including xenophobia, against them, to ensure that these groups are not left behind, and recognizes that violence increases the challenges faced by States and societies in the achievement of poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and social integration;

(d) Reaffirms the commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, as well as to the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into all development efforts, recognizing that they are critical for achieving sustainable development and for efforts to combat hunger and malnutrition, poverty and disease, to strengthening policies and programmes that improve, ensure and broaden the full participation of women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life as equal partners and to improving the access of women to all resources needed for the full exercise of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms by removing persistent barriers and allocating adequate resources for the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, including in the workplace, inter alia, by addressing wage inequality, ensuring equal access to full and productive employment and decent work for all, reconciliation of work and private life for both men and women, as well as strengthening their economic independence;

(e) Recognizes that youth participation is important for development, and urges Member States and United Nations entities, in consultation with youth and youth-led and youth-focused organizations, to explore and promote new avenues for the full, effective, structured and sustainable participation of young people and youth-led organizations in relevant decision-making processes and monitoring, in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life, including in designing and implementing policies, programmes and initiatives, in particular while implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

**Inequality in access to basic services**

(f) Reaffirms the right to education, and calls upon the international community to provide universal access to inclusive, equal and non-discriminatory quality education at all levels – early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary and distance education, including technical and vocational training – as well as to promote the completion of primary and secondary education so that all people may have access to lifelong learning opportunities that help them to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to exploit opportunities to participate fully in society and contribute to sustainable development;

(g) Recognizes that substantial and efficiently spent investments are needed to improve the quality of education and vocational training and in order to enable millions of people to acquire skills for decent work, and takes note with appreciation of the report of the International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity and the recommendations contained therein, as appropriate;

(h) Urges Member States to promote and respect women's and girls' right to education throughout the life cycle at all levels, especially for those who have been left furthest behind, and eliminate gender disparities in access to all areas of secondary and tertiary education, promote financial literacy and inclusion, digital literacy and entrepreneurship, ensure that women and girls have equal access to career development, training, scholarships and fellowships and adopt positive action to build women's and girls' leadership skills and influence, and adopt measures that promote, respect and guarantee the safety of women and girls in the school environment and that support women and girls with disabilities at all levels of education and training;

(i) Recognizes the responsibility of Governments to urgently and significantly scale up efforts to accelerate the transition towards universal access to affordable and quality health-care services, and calls upon Member States to accelerate progress towards achieving the goal of universal health coverage, which implies that all people have equal access, without discrimination of any kind, to nationally determined sets of quality promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative basic health services needed and to essential, safe, affordable, effective and quality medicines, while ensuring that the use of such services and medicines does not expose the users to financial hardship, with a specific emphasis on the poor, vulnerable and marginalized segments of the population;

**Inequality in access to nutrition and food**

(j) Reaffirms the right to food and acknowledges the importance of promoting sustainable farming and agriculture and, recognizing the important contribution that family farming and smallholder farming can play in providing food security, reducing inequality in access to food and nutrition, calls upon Governments to ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round;

(k) Encourages Governments to end all forms of malnutrition, including the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons;

(l) Invites Governments to double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment;

**Inequality in access to social protection**

(m) Urges Governments, with the cooperation of relevant entities, to establish nationally appropriate social protection that supports labour market participation and addresses and reduces inequality and social exclusion, and social protection systems and floors, including through streamlining fragmented social protection systems/programmes, ensuring that such programmes are gender-responsive and disability-sensitive, and progressively extend their coverage to all people throughout their life cycle, including for workers in the informal economy, invites the International Labour Organization, upon request, to support government efforts to strengthen social protection strategies and policies on extending social protection and social security coverage, urges Governments, while taking account of national circumstances, to focus on the needs of those living in, or vulnerable to, poverty and to give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems, including the implementation of social protection floors, which can provide a systemic base upon which to address poverty and vulnerability, and in this regard takes note of the International Labour Organization recommendation on social protection floors;

### **Inequality in access to employment and decent work**

(n) Urges Governments to work closely with all relevant stakeholders to create an environment conducive to the creation of new job opportunities and develop human resources development strategies premised on national development objectives that ensure a strong link between education, health, training and employment, help to maintain a productive and competitive workforce and are responsive to the needs of the economy;

(o) Stresses the need to address challenges faced by those working in informal or vulnerable jobs, by investing in the creation of more decent work opportunities, including providing access to decent jobs in the formal sector in accordance with International Labour Organization recommendation No. 204 concerning the transition from the informal to the formal economy, and enhancing the productive capacities of people, and strengthen labour institutions and employment and labour-market policies, taking into consideration the specific circumstances of each country and by promoting close partnerships with relevant stakeholders;

(p) Urges Member States to strengthen, as appropriate, the authority and capacity of national mechanisms for promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, at all levels, which should be placed at the highest possible level of government, with sufficient funding, and to mainstream a gender perspective across all relevant national and local institutions, including labour, economic and financial government agencies, in order to ensure that national planning, decision-making, policy formulation and implementation, budgeting processes and institutional structures contribute to women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work;

(q) Also urges Member States to address the high rates of youth unemployment, underemployment, vulnerable employment, informal employment and young people not in employment, education or training by developing and implementing targeted and integrated local and national youth employment policies for inclusive, sustainable and innovative job creation, improved employability, skills development and vocational training to facilitate the transition from school to work and to increase the prospects for integrating youth in the sustainable labour market, and through increased entrepreneurship, including the development of networks of young entrepreneurs at the local, national, regional and global levels that foster knowledge among young people about their rights and responsibilities in society, and encourages Member States to invest in education, support lifelong learning and provide social protection for all youth and to request donors, specialized United Nations entities and the private sector to continue to provide assistance to Member States, including technical and funding support, as appropriate;

(r) Recognizes that promoting full employment and decent work for all also requires investing in education, training and skills development for women and men, and girls and boys, strengthening social protection and health systems and applying international labour standards, and urges States and, as appropriate, the relevant entities of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, as well as civil society, the private sector, employer organizations, trade unions, the media and other relevant actors, to continue to develop and strengthen policies, strategies and programmes to enhance, in particular, the employability of women and youth and to ensure their access to full and productive employment and decent work for all, including by improving access to formal and non-formal education, skills development and vocational training, lifelong learning and retraining and long-distance education, inter alia, in information and communications technology and entrepreneurial skills, particularly in developing countries, including with a view to supporting the economic empowerment of women in the different stages of their lives;

### **Inequality in access to technologies**

(s) Recognizes that substantial digital divides exist between countries and regions, and between developed and developing countries, particularly Africa and least developed countries, and urges policymakers and regulators to work together to provide people with affordable access to technologies, including information and communications technologies and digital skills, through effective private-public partnership at multiple levels in order to advance investment in infrastructure and training, facilitated by cross-sectoral collaboration;

### **Inequality in access to infrastructure**

(t) Recognizes that important environmental and infrastructure inequalities persist, with people living in poverty overwhelmingly suffering from the effects of pollution, climate change and environmental degradation, calls upon the international community, including Member States, to continue their ambitious efforts to strive for more inclusive, equitable, balanced, stable and development-oriented sustainable socioeconomic approaches to overcoming poverty, and, in view of the negative impact of inequality, including gender inequality, on poverty, emphasizes the

importance of structural transformation that leads to inclusive and sustainable industrialization for employment creation and poverty reduction, investing in sustainable agriculture and quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all, enhancing interconnectivity and achieving access to energy, and improving access to financial services, as well as promoting decent rural employment, improving access to quality education, promoting quality health care, including through the acceleration of the transition towards equitable access to universal health coverage, advancing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, expanding social protection coverage, climate change mitigation and adaptation and combating inequality and social exclusion;

(u) Welcomes the convening of the third Global Infrastructure Forum in Bali, Indonesia, on 13 October 2018, and in this regard recalls, as outlined in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, that a greater range of voices should be heard, particularly from developing countries, to identify and address infrastructure and capacity gaps, in particular in, inter alia, African countries, and that it will highlight opportunities for investment and cooperation and work to ensure that investments are environmentally, socially and economically sustainable;

### **Urban-rural/spatial inequality**

(v) Recognizes that steps should be taken to anticipate and offset the negative social and economic consequences of globalization, and also recognizes the need to prioritize a financial infrastructure that provides access to a variety of sustainable products and services for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and entrepreneurship cooperatives and other forms of social enterprises, as well as investing in and contributing to sustainable agricultural development, including by boosting smallholder productivity through measures attracting responsible private investment, improving the quality and quantity of rural extension services and access to the necessary resources, assets, markets and cross-cutting agricultural technologies, and promoting the participation and entrepreneurship of women, including smallholder women farmers, as means to promote full and productive employment and decent work for all, as well as to pay special attention to the development of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, particularly in rural areas, and securing their safe interaction with larger economies;

(w) Reaffirms the New Urban Agenda,<sup>24</sup> which envisages cities and human settlements that fulfil their social function, including the social and ecological function of land, with a view to progressively achieving the full realization of the right to adequate housing, as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, without discrimination, universal access to safe and affordable drinking water and sanitation, as well as equal access for all to public goods and quality services in areas such as food security and nutrition, health, education, infrastructure, mobility and transportation, energy, air energy, air quality and livelihoods;

(x) Encourages Member States to pursue social and economic policies to support the creation of farm and off-farm jobs, as appropriate, especially labour-intensive and higher-productivity jobs in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and recognizes that redistributive land policies and improved access to formal credit markets through greater financial inclusion, as well as structural transformation policies that help to shift labour to high-productivity manufacturing and services sectors, may be considered by Member States within their national contexts and legislation;

### **Environmental inequality**

(y) Recognizes that the negative effects of climate change and environmental disasters have differential impacts, with people in vulnerable situations, poor and rural communities and low-income countries being disproportionately exposed to floods, droughts and other natural disasters, and that they have a lower capacity and assets to recover from such external shocks, and expresses concern that climate change may cause high and volatile food and commodity prices and hit them hardest;

(z) Acknowledges the important nexus between international migration and social development, and stresses the importance of effectively enforcing labour laws with regard to labour relations and working conditions of migrant workers, inter alia, those related to their remuneration and conditions of health, safety at work and the right to freedom of association;

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<sup>24</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

### Social development actors

15. *Reaffirms* that social development requires the active involvement of all actors in the development process, including civil society organizations, corporations, the public sector and small businesses, and that partnerships among all relevant actors within countries are increasingly becoming part of national and international cooperation for social development, also reaffirms that, within countries, partnerships among the Government, civil society and the private sector can contribute effectively to the achievement of social development goals, and acknowledges the role of the public and private sectors as employers and enablers for the effective generation of new investments, full and productive employment and decent work for all, including through partnerships with the United Nations system, civil society and academia;

16. *Stresses* the importance of the policy space and leadership of national Governments for implementing policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development, while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments, in particular in the areas of human rights, social expenditure and social protection programmes, and calls upon international financial institutions and donors to support developing countries in achieving their social development, in line with their national priorities and strategies, by, among other things, providing debt relief within the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

17. *Underlines* the responsibility of the private sector, at both the national and the international levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, regarding not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social, gender and environmental implications of their activities, their obligations towards their workers and their contributions to achieving sustainable development, including social development, emphasizes that transnational corporations and other business enterprises have a responsibility to respect human rights, applicable laws and international principles and standards, to operate transparently, in a socially and environmentally responsible manner, and to refrain from affecting the well-being of peoples, and also emphasizes the need to take further concrete actions on corporate responsibility and accountability, including through the participation of all relevant stakeholders, inter alia, for the prevention or prosecution of corruption, and to prevent human rights abuses;

18. *Stresses* the importance of stability in global financial systems and sound national economic policies to creating an enabling international environment to promote economic growth and social development and further stresses the importance of promoting corporate social responsibility and accountability, and encourages responsible business practices, such as those promoted by the Global Compact and the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework,<sup>25</sup> invites the private sector to take into account not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of its undertakings, and underlines the importance of the International Labour Organization Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy;

### International cooperation

19. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation has an essential role in assisting developing countries, including the least developed countries, in strengthening their human, institutional and technological capacity;

20. *Underlines* that South-South cooperation is an important element of international cooperation for development as a complement to, not a substitute for, North-South cooperation, recognizes its increased importance, different history and particularities, and stresses that it should be seen as an expression of solidarity among peoples and countries of the South, based on their shared experiences and objectives, and that it should continue to be guided by the principles of respect for national sovereignty, national ownership and independence, equality, non-conditionality, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual benefit;

21. *Emphasizes* that international public finance plays an important role in complementing the efforts of countries to mobilize public resources domestically, especially in the poorest and most vulnerable countries with limited domestic resources, and that an important use of international public finance, including official development assistance (ODA), is to catalyse the mobilization of additional resources from other public and

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<sup>25</sup> [A/HRC/17/31](#), annex.



private sources, and notes that ODA providers have reaffirmed their respective commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance (ODA/GNI) to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.2 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries;

22. *Welcomes* the increase in the volume of ODA since the adoption of the Monterrey Consensus, expresses its concern that many countries still fall short of their ODA commitments, reiterates that the fulfilment of all ODA commitments remains crucial, commends those few countries that have met or surpassed their commitment to 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI and the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries, urges all other countries to step up efforts to increase their ODA and to make additional concrete efforts towards the ODA targets, welcomes the decision by the European Union reaffirming its collective commitment to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI within the time frame of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and undertaking to meet collectively the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries in the short term and to reach 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries within the time frame of the 2030 Agenda, and encourages ODA providers to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries;

23. *Stresses* the essential role that ODA plays in complementing, leveraging and sustaining financing for development efforts in developing countries and in facilitating the achievement of development objectives, including the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals, and welcomes steps to improve the effectiveness and quality of aid based on the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization, managing for results and mutual accountability;

24. *Welcomes* the contribution to the mobilization of resources for social development by the initiatives taken on a voluntary basis by groups of Member States based on innovative financing mechanisms, including those that aim to provide further access to drugs at affordable prices to developing countries on a sustainable and predictable basis, such as the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNITAID, as well as other initiatives such as the International Finance Facility for Immunization and the Advance Market Commitment for Vaccines;

25. *Encourages* Governments to support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all;

26. *Stresses* that the international community shall enhance its efforts to create an enabling environment for social development and poverty eradication through increasing market access for developing countries, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, financial aid and a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem;

27. *Reaffirms* that each country has the primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and underlines the importance of adopting effective measures, including new financial mechanisms, as appropriate, to support the efforts of developing countries to achieve sustained economic growth, sustainable development, poverty eradication and the strengthening of their democratic systems;

28. *Stresses* that the international community should support national commitments to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions with the goal to ensure that no one is left behind, and recognizes the need for greater international cooperation to further reduce inequality between and within countries and increase capacity-building support to countries with the most constrained resources to ensure that social expenditures meet certain targets;

29. *Reconfirms* the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and recognizes the need to take steps to significantly increase investment to close resource gaps, including through the mobilization of financial resources from all sources, including public, private, domestic and international resource mobilization and allocation;

30. *Reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development, as a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council, in promoting the integrated treatment of social development issues in the United Nations system, shall review, on a periodic basis, issues related to the follow-up to and implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and

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the Programme of Action, in a manner consistent with the functions and contributions of the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and shall advise the Council thereon;

31. *Also reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development continues to have the primary responsibility for the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,<sup>7</sup> and that it serves as the main United Nations forum for an intensified global dialogue on social development issues, and calls upon Member States, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and civil society to enhance their support for its work;

32. *Further reaffirms* the mandate of the Commission for Social Development and that social development is a cross-cutting element in discussions surrounding the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and calls upon Member States, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, civil society and relevant stakeholders to enhance their support for the high-level political forum on sustainable development as it builds upon the work of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, including the Commission, while reflecting the integrated nature of the Sustainable Development Goals as well as the interlinkages between them;

33. *Reaffirms* the commitments made in respect of meeting the special needs of Africa at the 2005 World Summit,<sup>26</sup> underlines the call of the Economic and Social Council for enhanced coordination within the United Nations system and the ongoing efforts to harmonize the current initiatives on Africa, in line with the African Union's Agenda 2063, and requests the Commission for Social Development to continue to give due prominence in its work to the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

34. *Requests* the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies to continue to support national efforts of Member States to achieve inclusive social development in a coherent and coordinated manner, to mainstream the goal of full and productive employment and decent work for all into their policies, programmes and activities, as well as to support efforts of Member States aimed at achieving this objective, and invites financial institutions to support efforts in this regard;

35. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the regional commissions, the relevant specialized agencies, the funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental forums, within their respective mandates, to continue to integrate into their work programmes and give priority attention to the Copenhagen commitments and the Declaration on the tenth anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development,<sup>27</sup> to continue to be actively involved in their follow-up and to monitor the achievement of those commitments and undertakings;

36. *Calls upon* the Commission for Social Development to continue to address inequality in all its dimensions, in the context of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action, as well as the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and invites the Commission to emphasize the increased exchange of national, regional and international experiences, the focused and interactive dialogues among experts and practitioners and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned;

37. *Looks forward* to the convening by the President of the General Assembly of the high-level thematic debate on the issue of inclusive development and inequality within and among countries before the meeting of the high-level political forum in 2019;

38. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Social development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly", with a particular focus on strengthening international cooperation for social development, with particular attention to universal and equitable access to education and health care, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the question to the Assembly at that session.

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<sup>26</sup> Resolution 60/1, para. 68.

<sup>27</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 6 (E/2005/26)*, chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/234.

## RESOLUTION 73/142

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/581, para. 31)<sup>28</sup>

### 73/142. Inclusive development for and with persons with disabilities

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 71/165 of 19 December 2016 and its previous relevant resolutions, including those on all relevant internationally agreed development goals, as well as relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council and of the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions, and stressing the need for their full application and implementation for persons with disabilities,

*Reaffirming* the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>29</sup> which it adopted on 13 December 2006 and which entered into force on 3 May 2008, a landmark convention affirming the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, recognizing that it is both a human rights and a development instrument, encouraging its ratification by Member States and its implementation by States parties, and taking note of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>30</sup>

*Reaffirming also* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>31</sup> which is inclusive of persons with disabilities and in which Member States pledged to leave no one behind, and acknowledging that Member States, while implementing the 2030 Agenda, should, inter alia, respect, protect and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without discrimination of any kind,

*Recalling* all development and operational frameworks in which persons with disabilities are recognized as both development agents and beneficiaries in all aspects of development,

*Recalling also* the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,<sup>32</sup> the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,<sup>33</sup> the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>34</sup> the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,<sup>35</sup> the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>36</sup> the outcome document of the 2016 high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly on HIV and AIDS, entitled “Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: On the Fast Track to Accelerating the Fight against HIV and to Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030”,<sup>37</sup> the outcome document of

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<sup>28</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

<sup>29</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>30</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2518, No. 44910.

<sup>31</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>32</sup> *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution I, annexes I and II.

<sup>33</sup> Resolution 65/1.

<sup>34</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>35</sup> Resolution 69/283, annex II.

<sup>36</sup> Resolution 69/313, annex.

<sup>37</sup> Resolution 70/266, annex.

the high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples,<sup>38</sup> the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action, launched during the first World Humanitarian Summit, and the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III),<sup>39</sup> which contain references to the rights, participation, perspectives and well-being of persons with disabilities in development efforts,

*Recalling further* the outcome document of its high-level meeting on the overarching theme “The way forward: a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond”, held on 23 September 2013 at the level of Heads of State and Government,<sup>40</sup>

*Noting* that the Commission for Social Development decided to review, beginning at its fifty-seventh session, the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons<sup>41</sup> and the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities<sup>42</sup> by proceeding to the review of the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities: the way forward, a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond,<sup>43</sup>

*Reaffirming* the follow-up and review of progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals by the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the inclusion of persons with disabilities as stakeholders in its work, as set out in resolution [67/290](#) of 9 July 2013,

*Noting* the panel discussion organized by the President of the General Assembly held on 13 June 2016 to follow up on the status of and progress made towards the realization of the development goals for persons with disabilities in relation to the follow-up to the outcome of the high-level meeting on disability and development and to the principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,

*Taking note* of the preparation of the United Nations 2018 flagship report on disability and development: realization of the Sustainable Development Goals by, for and with persons with disabilities, and of the note by the Secretariat that provides an overview of the flagship report,<sup>44</sup>

*Recognizing* that persons with disabilities make up an estimated 15 per cent of the world’s population, or 1 billion people, of whom an estimated 80 per cent live in developing countries, and that persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected by poverty,

*Acknowledging* the Secretary-General’s decision to conduct an institutional review of the current United Nations approach to mainstreaming disability across its operations, which would inform the preparation of an internal policy and action plan to strengthen the ability of the United Nations system to mainstream disabilities, in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Gravely concerned* that persons with disabilities, including women, children, youth, persons with albinism, indigenous peoples and older persons, continue to be subject to multiple, aggravated and intersecting forms of discrimination, and noting that, while progress has already been made by Governments, the international community and the United Nations system in mainstreaming disability, in particular the rights of persons with disabilities, as an integral part of the development agenda, major challenges remain,

*Concerned* that women and girls with disabilities are often among the most vulnerable and marginalized in society and are at a greater risk of experiencing all forms of violence, and recognizing the need for national development strategies and efforts to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls with disabilities, the elimination of all forms of violence and the realization of their human rights,

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<sup>38</sup> Resolution [69/2](#).

<sup>39</sup> Resolution [71/256](#), annex.

<sup>40</sup> Resolution [68/3](#).

<sup>41</sup> [A/37/351/Add.1](#) and [A/37/351/Add.1/Corr.1](#), annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).

<sup>42</sup> Resolution [48/96](#), annex.

<sup>43</sup> See Economic and Social Council resolution [2018/3](#).

<sup>44</sup> [A/73/220](#).

*Recognizing* that persons with disabilities are often disproportionately affected in situations of risk, including situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and the occurrence of natural disasters and in their aftermath, and that they may require specific protection and safety measures, recognizing also the need to support further participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities in the development of such measures and decision-making processes relating thereto, in order to ensure disability-inclusive risk reduction and humanitarian action, and recognizing further the special coping mechanisms developed by persons with disabilities to withstand the effects of conflict and natural disasters,

*Recognizing also* the contribution of families towards ensuring the full enjoyment by persons with disabilities of all human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with others, and that persons with disabilities and their families should receive social protection and assistance to enable the family and its members to contribute towards the full and equal enjoyment of the rights of persons with disabilities and to ensure a safe and supportive family environment for persons with disabilities,

*Recognizing further* the collective responsibility of Governments to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality, non-discrimination and equity at the global level, and in this sense stressing the duty of Member States to achieve the full application and implementation of the international normative framework on persons with disabilities and human rights and development,

*Concerned* that access to health-care services remains a challenge for persons with disabilities, who are more than three times as likely as persons without disabilities to be unable to obtain health care when they need it, owing to, inter alia, a lack of financial resources and inaccessible public transport and facilities,

*Recognizing* that eliminating discrimination, ensuring equal access to social protection floors and safety nets and enhancing responsive support and services to persons with disabilities are critical to promoting inclusive development for all,

*Recognizing also* that, while considerable progress has been made, the mainstreaming of disabilities, including the rights of persons with disabilities, remains a global challenge, and recognizing that further efforts are needed to strengthen the normative and operational links to effectively integrate the rights, participation, perspectives and needs of persons with disabilities into development policies and programmes, and, in particular, into the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Noting* the need for Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders to further strengthen the normative framework on disability, including the rights of persons with disabilities, in line with the pledge of “leaving no one behind” of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and to consider disability as a global issue, cutting across the pillars of the United Nations,

*Stressing its resolve* to build inclusive societies and, in this regard, the importance of mainstreaming the rights, participation, perspectives, needs and well-being of persons with disabilities into all relevant strategies and programmes for sustainable development, and reaffirming the valued existing and potential contributions made by persons with disabilities to the overall well-being and diversity of their communities,

*Recognizing* the rights of persons with disabilities with respect to full, meaningful and effective participation and inclusion in society, and therefore recognizing also that persons with disabilities should have the opportunity to be actively involved in all aspects of public, political, economic, cultural, social and family life, on an equal basis with all others, including in decision-making processes about policies and programmes, including national and international development programmes, with a view to ensuring that such policies and programmes are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities,

*Underlining* the need for urgent action by all stakeholders towards the adoption and implementation of more ambitious disability-inclusive national development plans, strategies and actions, backed by increased international cooperation and support,

*Stressing* the need for capacity development efforts aimed at empowering persons with disabilities and their representative organizations to ensure equal access to quality education, full and productive employment and decent work on an equal basis and without discrimination to persons with disabilities, including by promoting access to inclusive education systems, skills development, volunteering opportunities and vocational and entrepreneurial training in order to enable persons with disabilities to attain and maintain maximum independence,

*Recognizing* the importance of promoting accessibility, mobility and road safety for persons with disabilities in the context of cities and other human settlements, and that accessibility is a means of achieving inclusive societies and development,

*Recognizing also* the growing contribution of sport to the realization of development and peace, and stressing that major international sporting events, such as the international Paralympic Games, should be organized in the spirit of peace, mutual understanding, friendship and tolerance, where persons with disabilities have an opportunity to organize, develop and participate in disability-specific sporting and recreational activities, on an equal basis with others, and where the spirit of fair play prevails, violence is banned and ethical principles are upheld,

*Concerned* that the continuing lack of reliable statistics, data and information on the situation of persons with disabilities at the national, regional and global levels contributes to their exclusion in official statistics, presenting an obstacle to achieving development planning and implementation that is inclusive of persons with disabilities, recognizing that high-quality, timely, accessible, reliable and disaggregated data are critical to measuring progress and ensuring that no one is left behind, and further noting the need for enhancing capacity-building support to developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of such data,

*Stressing* the importance of collecting and analysing reliable data on persons with disabilities following existing guidelines on disability statistics,<sup>45</sup> and their updates, encouraging ongoing efforts to improve data collection in order to disaggregate data with regard to persons with disabilities by sex, age and disability, and underlining the need for internationally comparable data, such as but not limited to the United Nations Children's Fund Module on Child Functioning and the tools and materials produced by the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, to assess progress on development policies that are inclusive of persons with disabilities,

*Concerned* that the lack of high-quality data required to provide viable baselines and measure progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals for persons with disabilities poses a significant challenge to effectively monitor the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for persons with disabilities, and in this regard welcoming the call for the disaggregation of data by disability in the 2030 Agenda, which recognizes the need to significantly increase the availability of high-quality, accessible, timely and reliable data to measure progress in the implementation of the Goals for persons with disabilities,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General, entitled "Inclusive development for persons with disabilities", on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions [71/165](#), and [68/3](#) of 23 September 2013;<sup>46</sup>

2. *Expresses appreciation* to Member States and United Nations entities that have submitted information on progress made towards the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including on specific priorities for action, and data and analysis on persons with disabilities, and urges Member States and relevant United Nations entities to submit information for inclusion in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

3. *Recalls* Human Rights Council resolution [26/20](#) of 27 June 2014,<sup>47</sup> in which the Council established the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, which included making concrete recommendations on how to better promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities, how to promote development that is inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities and how to promote their role as both agents for and beneficiaries of development;

4. *Welcomes* the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>31</sup> and recognizes that their participation is integral to the full and inclusive implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

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<sup>45</sup> Such as the *Guidelines and Principles for the Development of Disability Statistics* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.XVII.15) and the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.XVII.8).

<sup>46</sup> [A/73/211/Rev.1](#).

<sup>47</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/69/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.



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5. *Expresses appreciation* to Member States and United Nations entities that have drafted strategies outlining their way forward in implementing and monitoring implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development or are in the process of doing so, and encourages States, with the support of relevant stakeholders, to encourage the participation of persons with disabilities in the design and implementation of these strategies and ensure that the strategies are inclusive of persons with disabilities and respect, protect and promote their rights, bearing in mind the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;<sup>29</sup>

6. *Urges* Member States, United Nations agencies, international and regional organizations, regional integration organizations and financial institutions to make a concerted effort to include persons with disabilities and to integrate the principles of non-discrimination, accessibility and inclusion into the monitoring and evaluation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

7. *Urges* Member States, United Nations agencies and other stakeholders, in cooperation with women and girls with disabilities, including through their representative organizations, to design and implement policies and programmes to fulfil the rights of women and girls with disabilities, and to ensure that the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is inclusive of and accessible to women and girls with disabilities;

8. *Also urges* Member States, United Nations agencies and other stakeholders, in cooperation with persons with disabilities, including through their representative organizations, to design and implement policies and programmes to fulfil the rights of persons with disabilities, including through developing, reviewing and strengthening inclusive policies to address the historical, structural and underlying causes and risk factors of violence against persons with disabilities, in particular women and girls with disabilities, and to ensure that the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

9. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders to foster cooperation and to further improve coordination among existing international processes and instruments in order to advance a disability-inclusive global agenda and to facilitate cross-learning and the sharing of information, practices, tools and resources that are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

10. *Reaffirms* that social integration and economic policies should seek to reduce inequalities, promote access to basic social services, education for all and health-care services, including for mental health, eliminate discrimination, increase the participation and integration of social groups, particularly persons with disabilities, and address the challenges posed to social development by globalization and market-driven reforms in order for all people in all countries to benefit from globalization;

11. *Affirms* that persons with disabilities, including children, have the right to inclusive and equitable education and lifelong learning opportunities on the basis of equal opportunity and non-discrimination, and urges Member States to ensure full access to education and lifelong learning opportunities for persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others by taking appropriate steps through the provision of information in accessible and alternative communication formats, reasonable accommodation and other support, as required;

12. *Emphasizes* the importance of mainstreaming the rights, participation, perspectives and needs of persons with disabilities into disaster risk reduction and response, recognizes the need for their inclusion in and contribution to disaster preparedness, emergency response, recovery and the transition from relief to development, as well as the implementation of policies and programmes that are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities, and also recognizes the disproportionate impact of disasters on women and girls with disabilities;

13. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and relevant stakeholders to strengthen ongoing efforts and coordination in the humanitarian, disaster and development spheres towards disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction and humanitarian action so as to strengthen resilience, better mitigate risks and support pathways towards recovery and development, including during humanitarian emergencies, for persons with disabilities, and to establish partnerships and networks in the disaster risk reduction and humanitarian domains;

14. *Urges* Member States to ensure that persons with disabilities and their families, including women and girls, have access to a range of support services, information in accessible formats and education, including on how to prevent, recognize and report instances of exploitation, violence and abuse, as well as how to ensure that persons with disabilities, in particular children, have a safe and supportive family environment;

15. *Encourages* the mobilization of resources on a sustainable basis to mainstream disability, including the rights of persons with disabilities, into development at all levels, and in this regard underlines the need to promote and

strengthen international cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, in support of national efforts, including, as appropriate, through the establishment of national mechanisms, in particular in developing countries;

16. *Encourages* Member States, United Nations organizations and mechanisms, including the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the rights of persons with disabilities, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Disability and Accessibility and the regional commissions, to make all efforts to engage with and ensure accessibility for the full and effective participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities, in cooperation with organizations of persons with disabilities and, as appropriate, national human rights institutions, in development processes and decision-making at the local, national, regional and international levels;

17. *Encourages* the Commission for Social Development, within its mandate, to continue to provide its relevant input regarding persons with disabilities to the Economic and Social Council and to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, as appropriate, in order to support the relevant discussions on persons with disabilities in the follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

18. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to adopt a national disability strategy that can be operationalized, including through measurable and appropriate targets and indicators, and that assigns responsibility to and incorporates the views of a broad range of stakeholders, including persons with disabilities and their representative organizations;

19. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant regional organizations and United Nations bodies and agencies to take into account the rights, participation, perspectives and needs of persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others in ensuring that all development policies and programmes, including those regarding poverty eradication, discrimination and the elimination of all forms of violence and abuse for women and girls with disabilities, social protection, full and productive employment and decent work, and appropriate measures for financial inclusion, as well as urban and rural planning and accessible community and housing development, including the objectives and principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, are translated into concrete actions;

20. *Encourages* Member States, international development institutions and other stakeholders, including those in the private sector, to promote accessibility, including through the application of universal design in all aspects of urban and rural development, including the planning, design and construction of physical and virtual environments, public spaces, transportation and public services, as well as to promote access to information and communication, including information and communications technologies and systems, to ensure that accessibility is promoted to achieve inclusive societies and development;

21. *Encourages* Member States to eliminate barriers faced by persons with disabilities in accessing water, sanitation and hygiene, including physical, institutional, social and attitudinal barriers, and recognizing that assistive technologies help in making water, sanitation and hygiene accessible;

22. *Urges* Member States to strive to ensure that persons with disabilities have access to rehabilitation and other independent living services and assistive technologies to enable them to maximize their well-being and realize their independence and full participation in society;

23. *Urges* Member States and regional and local governments to promote appropriate measures in cities and other human settlements that facilitate the access of persons with disabilities, on an equal basis with others, to the physical environment of cities, in particular to public spaces, public transport, housing, workplaces, water and sanitation, education and health facilities, public information and communication (including information and communications technologies and systems) and other facilities and services open or provided to the public in both rural and urban areas to reduce the inequalities and expedite inclusive and sustainable development for persons with disabilities;

24. *Urges* Member States, at the local, regional and national levels, to improve road safety for persons with disabilities and to integrate road safety into sustainable mobility and transport infrastructure planning and design in cities and other human settlements;

25. *Stresses* the importance of enabling persons with disabilities to participate on an equal basis with others in recreational, leisure and sporting activities and of promoting sports for athletes with disabilities, without discrimination of any kind;

26. *Welcomes* the contributions made to the trust fund for the United Nations Partnership to Promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and in this regard encourages Member States and other stakeholders to support its objectives, including by providing voluntary contributions;

27. *Requests* the United Nations system to facilitate technical assistance, within existing resources, including the provision of assistance for capacity-building and for the collection and compilation of national data and statistics on persons with disabilities, in particular to developing countries, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with existing international guidelines on disability statistics, to analyse, publish and disseminate disability data and statistics in future periodic reports, as appropriate, on the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities;

28. *Encourages* the Statistical Commission, within existing resources, to update guidelines for the collection and analysis of data on persons with disabilities, taking into consideration relevant recommendations of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, and also encourages the United Nations system, including the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, within the scope of her mandate, to strengthen coherence and coordination across the United Nations system in order to promote the availability of internationally comparable data on the situation of persons with disabilities and to regularly include relevant data on disability or relevant qualitative facts, as appropriate, in relevant United Nations publications in the field of economic and social development;

29. *Encourages* Member States to take appropriate steps to expedite the mainstreaming of data on disability into official statistics, including by collecting data disaggregated by sex, age and disability status using appropriate measurement tools, including, as appropriate, the United Nations Children's Fund Module on Child Functioning and the tools produced by the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, by examining underlying concepts, purposes and advantages of existing relevant data-collection tools and instruments and urging all relevant stakeholders to work with the United Nations to provide urgently needed baseline data for monitoring progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals for persons with disabilities, to strengthen national capacities in that regard and to enhance capacity-building support for developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States;

30. *Takes note* of the multi-stakeholder panel discussion entitled "Towards inclusive, resilient and sustainable development: an evidence-based approach to the mainstreaming of disability in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the 2030 Agenda", held on 31 January 2018 during the fifty-sixth session of the Commission for Social Development, and recognizes the importance of undertaking similar discussions and related initiatives in the future and the continued inclusion of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in the meetings of the Commission;

31. *Decides* to change the title of sub-item (b) of the item entitled "Social development" on the agenda of the General Assembly to read: "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, persons with disabilities and the family";

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in coordination with all relevant United Nations entities, to submit information to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution and of the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities: the way forward, a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond,<sup>40</sup> and to make appropriate recommendations to further strengthen implementation;

33. *Welcomes* the launch by the Secretary-General of the 2018 United Nations flagship report on disability and development on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities in 2018, and, recognizing that high-quality, timely, accessible, reliable and disaggregated data are critical to measuring progress and ensuring that no one is left behind, requests that data collection and analysis continue, with a view to informing policymaking, and decides to discuss, at its seventy-fifth session, how best to present these data and findings, including through a flagship report;

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the relevant offices in the United Nations system, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and other relevant offices, have adequate human and financial resources for the fulfilment of their tasks with respect to their work in mainstreaming the rights, participation, perspectives, needs and well-being of persons with disabilities into the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in ensuring the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the decision-making processes that impact them.

## RESOLUTION 73/143

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/581, para. 31)<sup>48</sup>

### 73/143. Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 57/167 of 18 December 2002, in which it endorsed the Political Declaration<sup>49</sup> and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,<sup>50</sup> its resolution 58/134 of 22 December 2003, in which it took note, inter alia, of the road map for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and its resolutions 60/135 of 16 December 2005, 61/142 of 19 December 2006, 62/130 of 18 December 2007, 63/151 of 18 December 2008, 64/132 of 18 December 2009, 65/182 of 21 December 2010, 66/127 of 19 December 2011, 67/139 and 67/143 of 20 December 2012, 68/134 of 18 December 2013, 69/146 of 18 December 2014, 70/164 of 17 December 2015, 71/164 of 19 December 2016 and 72/144 of 19 December 2017,

*Recognizing* that, in many parts of the world, awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action remains limited or non-existent, which limits the scope of implementation efforts,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>51</sup>

*Recalling* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>52</sup> and stressing the need to ensure that issues of relevance to older persons are taken into account in its implementation in order to ensure that no one is left behind, including older persons,

*Noting* the recent regional developments on the protection and promotion of the human rights of older persons, including the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa,

*Noting also* that, between 2017 and 2030, the number of persons aged 60 years or over is projected to grow by 46 per cent, from 962 million to 1.4 billion, globally outnumbering youth, as well as children under the age of 10,<sup>53</sup> and that this increase will be the greatest and the most rapid in the developing world, and recognizing that greater attention needs to be paid to the specific challenges affecting older persons, including in the field of human rights,

*Recalling* World Health Assembly resolutions on ageing, specifically resolution 58.16 of 25 May 2005 on strengthening active and healthy ageing,<sup>54</sup> which stressed the important role of public health policies and programmes in enabling the rapidly growing number of older persons to remain in good health and maintain their many vital contributions to the well-being of their families, communities and societies, resolution 65.3 of 25 May 2012 on strengthening non-communicable disease policies to promote active ageing,<sup>55</sup> which recognized that population ageing is among the major factors contributing to the rising incidence and prevalence of non-communicable diseases and noted the importance of lifelong health-promotion and disease-prevention activities, and resolution 69.3 of 29 May 2016, entitled "Global strategy and action plan on ageing and health 2016–2020: towards a world in which everyone can live a long and healthy life",<sup>56</sup>

<sup>48</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Canada, Croatia, Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

<sup>49</sup> *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>50</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>51</sup> A/73/213.

<sup>52</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>53</sup> United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *World Population Prospects: 2017 Revision*.

<sup>54</sup> See World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1.

<sup>55</sup> See World Health Organization, document WHA65/2012/REC/1.

<sup>56</sup> See World Health Organization, document WHA69/2016/REC/1.

*Acknowledging* that many developing countries and countries with economies in transition are confronting a double burden of fighting emerging and re-emerging communicable diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, in parallel with the increasing threat of non-communicable diseases, and expressing concern about the impact on older persons,

*Concerned* that many health systems are not sufficiently prepared to respond to the needs of the rapidly ageing population, including the need for preventive, curative, palliative and specialized care,

*Deeply concerned* that the situation of older persons in many parts of the world has been negatively affected by the world financial and economic crisis, and noting with concern the high incidence of poverty among them, particularly older single women,

*Recognizing* the essential contribution that older persons can continue to make to the functioning of societies and towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and recognizing also the importance of the full and effective enjoyment of their human rights,

*Concerned* about the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination that may create additional vulnerabilities for older persons and affect their enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and noting that older women often face multiple forms of discrimination resulting from gender inequality,

*Recognizing* that the prevalence of disability increases with age and that many older persons live with a disability,

*Recognizing also* that the social exclusion of older persons is a complex process involving the lack or denial of resources, rights, goods and services as people age, and the inability of older persons to participate in societal relationships and activities, available to the majority of people across the varied and multiple domains of society, and that it affects both the quality of life of older persons and the equity and cohesion of an ageing society as a whole, with considerable implications for the enjoyment by older persons of their human rights,

*Acknowledging* the importance of exploring ways to increase the visibility of and attention to the specific challenges faced by older persons in the global development policy framework, including identifying possible gaps and how best to address them,

*Recognizing* the successful conclusion of the third review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action and the results achieved at the international, regional and national levels, and acknowledging in that regard the recommendations of the Commission for Social Development at its fifty-sixth session, as endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2018/6 of 17 April 2018,

1. *Reaffirms* the Political Declaration<sup>49</sup> and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;<sup>50</sup>
2. *Calls upon* all States and the international community to cooperate, support and participate in the global efforts towards an age-inclusive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>52</sup> and to mobilize all necessary resources and support in that regard, according to national plans and strategies, including through an integrated and multifaceted approach to improving the well-being of older persons, and in this regard encourages Member States to seize this opportunity to take into account issues of relevance to older persons in their efforts to promote the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals;
3. *Recognizes* that the major challenges faced by older persons undermine their social, economic and cultural participation;
4. *Emphasizes* the need to take effective measures against ageism and to view older persons as active contributors to society and not as passive receivers of care and assistance and an impending burden on welfare systems and economies, while promoting and protecting their human rights;
5. *Recognizes* the challenges related to the enjoyment of all human rights that older persons face in different areas and that those challenges require in-depth analysis and action to address protection gaps, and calls upon all States to promote and ensure the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for older persons, including by progressively taking measures to combat age discrimination, neglect, abuse and violence, as well as social isolation and loneliness, to provide social protection, access to food and housing, health-care services, employment, legal capacity and access to justice and to address issues related to social integration and gender inequality by mainstreaming the rights of older persons into sustainable development strategies, urban policies and poverty reduction strategies, bearing in mind the crucial importance of intergenerational solidarity for social development;

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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6. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, and stresses the importance of close coordination between the work of the Independent Expert and the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing established by the General Assembly in paragraph 28 of its resolution 65/182, while avoiding unnecessary duplication of their respective mandates and those of other special procedures and subsidiary organs of the Human Rights Council, and relevant United Nations bodies and treaty bodies;

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Independent Expert issued at the thirty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council,<sup>57</sup> and encourages Member States to be mindful of the recommendations contained therein;

8. *Invites* Member States to continue to share their national experiences in developing and implementing policies and programmes aimed at strengthening the promotion and protection of the human rights of older persons, including within the framework of the Open-ended Working Group;

9. *Encourages* Governments to actively address, through national, regional and international efforts, issues that affect older persons and to ensure that the social integration of older persons and the promotion and protection of their rights form an integral part of development policies at all levels;

10. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and implement non-discriminatory policies, legislation and regulations, to systematically review and amend these, where appropriate, if they discriminate against older persons, especially on the basis of age, and to take appropriate measures to prevent discrimination against older persons in, inter alia, employment, social protection and the provision of social, health-care and long-term care services;

11. *Calls upon* Member States to promote, in accordance with their national priorities, equitable and affordable access to sustainable basic physical and social infrastructure for all, without discrimination, including affordable serviced land, housing, modern and renewable energy, safe drinking water and sanitation, safe, nutritious and adequate food, waste disposal, sustainable mobility, health-care services and family planning, education, culture and information and communications technologies, and to ensure that these services are responsive to the rights and needs of older persons, while recognizing that planning for and providing opportunities for making cities inclusive of older persons' economic and social participation is an important dimension of the construction of sustainable cities;

12. *Encourages* Member States to take into account the multidimensional nature of the vulnerability of older persons to poverty and economic insecurity, including through the promotion of good health, care and well-being, in their implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals at the national level;

13. *Encourages* Governments to pay greater attention to building capacity to eradicate poverty among older persons, in particular older women and older persons with disabilities, by mainstreaming ageing issues into poverty eradication measures, women's empowerment strategies and national development plans, and to include both ageing-specific policies and ageing-mainstreaming efforts in their national strategies;

14. *Encourages* Member States to consider expanding, in accordance with domestic legislation and policies, the reach of sustainable pension schemes, including but not limited to strategies such as social pensions, and increasing their benefits, with a view to ensuring income security in old age;

15. *Also encourages* Member States to develop and implement long-term care strategies and to conduct research on good practices of care strategies, recognizing and supporting both paid and unpaid care work for the benefit of older persons, in accordance with the World Health Organization global strategy and action plan on ageing and health 2016–2020,<sup>56</sup> and to further promote long-term care as a positive social and economic investment and a source of employment expansion;

16. *Further encourages* Member States to promote terms and conditions of care work guided by International Labour Organization standards for all care workers, including but not limited to migrants, and to adopt measures to tackle the gender and age stereotypes for care work;

17. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts to develop national capacities to address their national implementation priorities identified during the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action by considering and devising strategies that take into account the entirety of the human life course and foster

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<sup>57</sup> A/HRC/39/50.



intergenerational solidarity, the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, research, data collection and analysis and the training of necessary personnel in the field of ageing;

18. *Recommends* that Member States increase efforts to raise awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action and identify key priority areas for its implementation, including empowering older persons and promoting their rights, bearing in mind the crucial importance of intergenerational family interdependence, solidarity and reciprocity for social development, raising awareness of ageing issues and building national capacities, as well as promoting and supporting initiatives to advance a positive public image of older persons and their multiple contributions to their families, communities and societies and working with the regional commissions, as needed, and enlisting the help of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in seeking increased attention for ageing issues;

19. *Encourages* Governments that have not done so to designate focal points for handling the follow-up of national plans of action on ageing, and also encourages Governments to strengthen existing networks of national focal points on ageing;

20. *Invites* Governments to conduct their ageing-related policies through inclusive and participatory consultations with relevant stakeholders and social development partners, in the interest of developing effective policies that create national policy ownership and consensus-building;

21. *Recommends* that Governments be inclusive in involving older persons and their organizations in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of policies and programmes that affect them, including through simple consultative mechanisms to co-research or co-design such policies and programmes with or by older persons and to take due account of involving those who experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and are particularly vulnerable to high incidences of poverty and social exclusion;

22. *Recommends* that Member States enhance their capacity to more effectively collect age-disaggregated data, statistics and qualitative information, disaggregated also, when necessary, by other relevant factors, including sex and disability, in order to improve assessment of the situation of older persons, recognizes that the data revolution presents new opportunities and challenges for the use of new data to help with the measurement of progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular its aspects of relevance to older persons, and to ensure that no one is left behind, and in this regard welcomes the establishment by the Statistical Commission of the Titchfield Group on ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data and the consideration of its work;

23. *Encourages* States parties to existing international human rights instruments, where appropriate, to address the situation of older persons more explicitly in their reports, and encourages treaty body monitoring mechanisms and special procedures mandate holders to pay due regard to the situation of older persons in their dialogue with Member States, particularly in their concluding observations and reports, respectively;

24. *Recognizes* the importance of strengthening intergenerational partnerships and solidarity, and in this regard calls upon Member States to promote opportunities for voluntary, constructive and regular interaction between young people and older generations in the family, the workplace and society at large;

25. *Encourages* Member States to adopt social policies that promote the development of community services for older persons, taking into account the psychological and physical aspects of ageing and the special needs of older women and older persons with disabilities;

26. *Also encourages* Member States to ensure that older persons have access to information about their rights so as to enable them to participate fully and justly in their societies and to claim full enjoyment of all human rights;

27. *Calls upon* Member States to develop their national capacity for monitoring and enforcing the rights of older persons, in consultation with all sectors of society, including organizations of older persons, through, inter alia, national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, where applicable;

28. *Also calls upon* Member States to strengthen and incorporate a gender and disability perspective into all policy actions on ageing, as well as to address and eliminate discrimination on the basis of age, sex or disability, and recommends that Member States engage with all sectors of society, in particular with relevant organizations with an interest in the matter, including organizations of older persons, women and persons with disabilities, in changing negative stereotypes about older persons, in particular older women and older persons with disabilities, and promote positive images of older persons;

29. *Acknowledges* that universal health coverage implies that all people, including older persons, have access, without discrimination, to every country's determined sets of needed promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative basic health services and essential, safe, affordable, effective and quality medicines, while ensuring that the use of such services does not expose older persons to financial hardship, with a special emphasis on the poor, vulnerable and marginalized;

30. *Urges* Member States to develop, implement and evaluate policies and programmes that promote healthy and active ageing and the highest attainable standard of health and well-being for older persons and to develop health care for older persons as part of primary care in the existing health systems;

31. *Recognizes* the importance of training, education and capacity-building of the health workforce, including paid care workers and unpaid caregivers, for home-based care;

32. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that the principle of non-discrimination on the basis of age is incorporated and upheld in health and other policies and programmes and that the implementation of such policies and programmes is regularly monitored;

33. *Urges* Member States to strengthen intersectoral policy frameworks and institutional mechanisms, as appropriate, for the integrated management of the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, including health promotion, health-care services and social welfare services, in order to address the needs of older persons;

34. *Encourages* Member States to provide services and support to older persons, including grandparents, who have assumed responsibility for children who were abandoned or whose parents are deceased, have migrated or are otherwise unable to care for their dependants;

35. *Calls upon* Member States to address the issue of the well-being of and adequate health-care services for older persons, as well as any cases of neglect, abuse and violence against older persons, in particular older women, by designing and implementing more effective prevention strategies and stronger laws and by developing coherent and comprehensive policy frameworks to address these problems and their underlying factors;

36. *Also calls upon* Member States to take concrete measures to further protect and assist older persons in emergency situations, in accordance with the Madrid Plan of Action and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;<sup>58</sup>

37. *Stresses* that, in complementing national development efforts, enhanced international cooperation, in particular North-South cooperation, which is complemented by South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation, is essential to support developing countries in implementing the Madrid Plan of Action, while recognizing the importance of such assistance as well as the provision of financial assistance;

38. *Encourages* Member States to establish or to strengthen strategic approaches and policy options in relation to the physical and mental health of older persons in the light of new and emerging disease patterns, notably non-communicable diseases, as well as in relation to increased life expectancy, with particular attention to promoting good health and addressing health needs across a care continuum, including prevention, detection and diagnosis, management and rehabilitation, treatment and palliative care, with the aim of achieving comprehensive health-care coverage for older persons;

39. *Encourages* the international community, including international and bilateral donors, to enhance international cooperation to support national efforts to eradicate poverty, in keeping with internationally agreed goals, in order to achieve sustainable and adequate social and economic support for older persons, while bearing in mind that countries have the primary responsibility for their own economic and social development;

40. *Also encourages* the international community to support national efforts to forge stronger partnerships with civil society, including organizations of older persons, academia, research foundations, faith-based organizations, community-based organizations, including caregivers, and the private sector, in an effort to help to build capacity on ageing issues;

41. *Encourages* the international community and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to support national efforts to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing, as appropriate, in order to better understand the challenges and opportunities presented by population ageing

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<sup>58</sup> Resolution 69/283, annex II.

and to provide policymakers with more accurate and more specific information with regard to a gender perspective on ageing, as well as to include indicators that provide an evidence base for the equitable delivery and effective monitoring of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, the New Urban Agenda<sup>59</sup> and national policymaking, as well as to gain a better understanding of how to promote ageing in a way that is not adversely affected by rapid urbanization and gentrification;

42. *Recognizes* the important role of various international and regional organizations that deal with training, capacity-building, policy design and monitoring at the national and regional levels in promoting and facilitating the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and acknowledges the work that is undertaken in various parts of the world, through the regional commissions and regional initiatives, as well as the work of institutes such as the International Institute on Ageing in Malta and the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna;

43. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Inter-Agency Group on Ageing, an informal network of interested United Nations entities that exchange information and integrate ageing into their work programmes on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

44. *Requests* the focal point on ageing of the United Nations system, the Programme on Ageing of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, to continue to enhance its collaboration with the focal points of the regional commissions, funds and programmes, and recommends that Member States reaffirm the roles of focal points within the United Nations system, increase technical cooperation efforts, consider expanding the role of the regional commissions on ageing issues and continue to provide resources for those efforts, facilitate the coordination of national and international non-governmental organizations on ageing and enhance cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, to promote ageing issues and develop partnerships in this regard;

45. *Reiterates* the need for additional capacity-building at the national level in order to promote and facilitate further implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, as well as the results of its review and appraisal cycle, and in this regard encourages Governments to support the United Nations trust fund for ageing so as to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

46. *Requests* the United Nations system to strengthen its capacity to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, national implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, where appropriate;

47. *Requests* relevant entities of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), to ensure that the situation of older women is mainstreamed and incorporated across their work and to support, in accordance with their respective mandates, the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular its aspects of relevance to older persons, including gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

48. *Invites* relevant entities of the United Nations system, including UN-Women, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Food Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the World Health Organization, among others, as well as the International Organization for Migration, to include in reports to their respective governing bodies relevant information on efforts made by Member States and the international community on issues of relevance to older persons, including their social inclusion;

49. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing,<sup>60</sup> and recognizes the positive contributions of Member States, as well as relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, including relevant human rights mandate holders and treaty bodies and the regional commissions, as well as national human rights institutions, intergovernmental and relevant non-governmental organizations with an interest in the matter and invited panellists, during the first nine working sessions of the Working Group, and invites Member States, as well as relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders, to continue to make contributions to the work entrusted to the Working Group, as appropriate;

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<sup>59</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

<sup>60</sup> See [A/AC.278/2016/2](#), [A/AC.278/2017/2](#) and [A/AC.278/2018/2](#).

50. *Encourages* Member States to continue to contribute to the work of the Open-ended Working Group, in particular by presenting measures to enhance the promotion and protection of the human rights and dignity of older persons, such as best practices, lessons learned and possible content for a multilateral legal instrument, as appropriate, in order to enable it to fulfil its existing mandate of strengthening the protection of the human rights of older persons by considering the existing international framework of the human rights of older persons and identifying possible gaps and how best to address them, including by considering, as appropriate, the feasibility of further instruments and measures;

51. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support to the Open-ended Working Group for the organization of its tenth session, of a duration of four days, in April 2019, with the provision of conference services, including interpretation services, and to include the annual sessions of the Working Group in the Organization's calendar of conferences and meetings;

52. *Invites* the Independent Expert to address and engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session under the agenda item entitled "Social development";

53. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

### RESOLUTION 73/144

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/581, para. 31)<sup>61</sup>

#### 73/144. Follow-up to the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 50/142 of 21 December 1995, 52/81 of 12 December 1997, 54/124 of 17 December 1999, 56/113 of 19 December 2001, 57/164 of 18 December 2002, 58/15 of 3 December 2003, 59/111 of 6 December 2004, 59/147 of 20 December 2004, 60/133 of 16 December 2005, 62/129 of 18 December 2007, 64/133 of 18 December 2009, 66/126 of 19 December 2011, 67/142 of 20 December 2012, 68/136 of 18 December 2013, 69/144 of 18 December 2014, 71/163 of 19 December 2016 and 72/145 of 19 December 2017 concerning the proclamation of, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family and its tenth and twentieth anniversaries,

*Recognizing* that the preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year in 2014 provided a useful opportunity to continue to raise awareness of the objectives of the International Year for increasing cooperation on family issues at all levels and for undertaking concerted action to strengthen family-centred policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

*Recognizing also* that the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes, especially those relating to family policies in the areas of poverty, work-family balance and intergenerational issues, with attention given to the rights and responsibilities of all family members, can contribute to ending poverty, ending hunger, ensuring a healthy life and promoting well-being for all at all ages, promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all, ensuring better education outcomes for children, including early childhood development and education, enabling access to employment opportunities and decent work for parents and caregivers, achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and eliminating all forms of violence, in particular against women and girls, and supporting the overall quality of life of families, including families in vulnerable situations, so that family members can realize their full potential, as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

*Acknowledging* that the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits and their follow-up processes continue to provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

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<sup>61</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belarus, Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

*Recognizing* the continuing efforts of Governments, the United Nations system, regional organizations and civil society, including academic institutions, to fulfil the objectives of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year at the national, regional and international levels,

*Acknowledging* that the International Year and its follow-up processes have served as catalysts for a number of initiatives at the national and international levels, including many family policies and programmes to reduce poverty and hunger and promote the well-being of all at all ages, and can boost development efforts, contribute to better outcomes for children and help to break the intergenerational transfer of poverty in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>62</sup>

*Acknowledging also* that strengthening intergenerational relations, through such measures as promoting intergenerational living arrangements and encouraging extended family members to live in close proximity to each other, has been found to promote the autonomy, security and well-being of children and older persons, and that initiatives to promote involved and positive parenting and to support the role of grandparents have been found to be beneficial in advancing social integration and solidarity between generations, as well as in promoting and protecting the human rights of all family members,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>63</sup>

2. *Encourages* Governments to continue their efforts to implement the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes and to develop strategies and programmes aimed at strengthening national capacities to address national priorities relating to family issues and to step up their efforts, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to implement those objectives, in particular in the areas of fighting poverty and hunger and ensuring the well-being of all at all ages;

3. *Invites* Member States to invest in a variety of inclusive, family-oriented policies and programmes, which take into account the different needs and expectations of families, as important tools for, inter alia, fighting poverty, social exclusion and inequality, promoting work-family balance and gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and advancing social integration and intergenerational solidarity, to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>62</sup>

4. *Encourages* Member States to continue to enact inclusive and responsive family-oriented policies for poverty reduction in line with the main objectives of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year, to confront family poverty and social exclusion, recognizing the multidimensional aspects of poverty, focusing on inclusive and quality education and lifelong learning for all, health and well-being for all at all ages, full and productive employment, decent work, social security, livelihoods and social cohesion, including through gender- and age-sensitive social protection systems and measures, such as child allowances for parents and pension benefits for older persons, and to ensure that the rights, capabilities and responsibilities of all family members are respected;

5. *Also encourages* Member States to promote work-family balance as conducive to the well-being of children, the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, inter alia, through improved working conditions for workers with family responsibilities, flexible working arrangements, such as telecommuting, and leave arrangements, such as maternity leave and paternity leave, affordable, accessible and good-quality childcare and initiatives to promote the equal sharing of household responsibilities, including unpaid care work, between men and women;

6. *Further encourages* Member States to invest in family policies and programmes that enhance strong intergenerational interactions, such as intergenerational living arrangements, parenting education and support for grandparents, including grandparents who are primary caregivers, in an effort to promote inclusive urbanization, intergenerational solidarity and social cohesion;

7. *Encourages* Member States to consider providing universal and gender-sensitive social protection systems, which are key to ensuring poverty reduction, including, as appropriate, targeted cash transfers for families in vulnerable situations, as can be the case of families headed by a single parent, in particular those headed by women, and which are most effective in reducing poverty when accompanied by other measures, such as providing access to basic services, high-quality education and health-care services;

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<sup>62</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>63</sup> A/73/61-E/2018/4.

8. *Encourages* Governments to support the United Nations trust fund on family activities;
9. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen cooperation with civil society, academic institutions and the private sector in the development and implementation of relevant family policies and programmes;
10. *Encourages* further collaboration between the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the United Nations entities, agencies, funds and programmes, as well as other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations active in the family field, as well as the enhancement of research efforts and awareness-raising activities relating to the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes;
11. *Requests* the focal point on the family of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to enhance collaboration with the regional commissions, funds and programmes, recommends that the roles of focal points within the United Nations system be reaffirmed, and invites Member States to increase technical cooperation efforts, consider enhancing the role of the regional commissions on family issues and continue to provide resources for those efforts, facilitate the coordination of national and international non-governmental organizations on family issues and enhance cooperation with all relevant stakeholders to promote family issues and develop partnerships in this regard;
12. *Calls upon* Member States and agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, in consultation with civil society and other relevant stakeholders, to continue to provide information on their activities, including on good practices at the national, regional and international levels, in support of the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes, to be included in the report of the Secretary-General;
13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes by Member States and by agencies and bodies of the United Nations system;
14. *Decides* to consider the topic “Implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes” at its seventy-fourth session under the sub-item entitled “Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, persons with disabilities and the family” of the item entitled “Social development”.

### RESOLUTION 73/145

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/581, para. 31)<sup>64</sup>

#### 73/145. Literacy for life: shaping future agendas

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 56/116 of 19 December 2001, by which it proclaimed the 10-year period beginning on 1 January 2003 the United Nations Literacy Decade, its resolution 57/166 of 18 December 2002, in which it welcomed the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade,<sup>65</sup> and its resolutions 59/149 of 20 December 2004, 61/140 of 19 December 2006, 63/154 of 18 December 2008, 65/183 of 21 December 2010, 68/132 of 18 December 2013, 69/141 of 18 December 2014 and 71/166 of 19 December 2016,

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<sup>64</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia and Zimbabwe.

<sup>65</sup> See A/57/218 and A/57/218/Corr.1.



*Recalling also* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>66</sup> which includes Sustainable Development Goal 4 on ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all, with a specific target on ensuring that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy by 2030,

*Convinced* that literacy is crucial to the acquisition by every child, young person and adult of the essential life skills that will enable them to address the challenges that they may face in life and represents an essential condition of lifelong learning, which is an indispensable means for effective participation in the knowledge societies and economies of the twenty-first century, and to promote inclusive and equitable societies,

*Reaffirming* the right of indigenous peoples to have non-discriminatory access to all levels and forms of education provided by States, and recognizing the importance of effective measures to promote access for indigenous individuals, in particular children, to education in their own language, whenever possible, as addressed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,<sup>67</sup>

*Deeply concerned* that, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 750 million adults, two thirds of whom are women, lack basic literacy skills, that more than 617 million children and adolescents are not achieving minimum proficiency levels in reading and mathematics and that 262 million children, adolescents and youth worldwide (or 1 in 5) are out of school – a figure that has barely changed over the past five years,<sup>68</sup>

*Recognizing* that literacy is crucial in a lifelong learning perspective as a continuum of different proficiency levels that are developed throughout life and across different life contexts,

*Recognizing also* that substantial and efficiently spent investments are needed to improve the quality of education in order to enable millions of people to acquire literacy skills for decent work,

*Recognizing further* that literacy is a foundation for lifelong learning, a building block for achieving human rights and fundamental freedoms and a driver of sustainable development, and that the United Nations Literacy Decade (2003–2012) had a catalytic effect as a global framework for sustained and focused efforts for the promotion of literacy and literate environments,

*Recalling* the International Conference on Girls' and Women's Literacy and Education: Foundations for Sustainable Development, held in Dhaka and co-hosted by the Government of Bangladesh and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in support of the Global Education First Initiative and on the occasion of International Literacy Day, on 8 September 2014, and taking note with appreciation of the adoption of the Dhaka Declaration,

*Affirming* that the realization of the right to education, especially for girls, contributes to the promotion of human rights, gender equality, the empowerment of women and the eradication of poverty, as well as to development,

*Recognizing* the importance of continuing to implement national and subnational programmes and measures to eliminate illiteracy worldwide as reflected in the Dakar Framework for Action, adopted on 28 April 2000 at the World Education Forum,<sup>69</sup> consistent with Goal 4 of the 2030 Agenda, and in this regard recognizing also the important contribution of North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation through, inter alia, innovative pedagogical methods in literacy,

*Deeply concerned* about the persistence of the gender gap in education, which is reflected by the fact that, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, nearly two thirds of the world's non-literate adults are women,

*Concerned* that, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, one third of the children not attending school are children with disabilities and that the literacy rate among adults with disabilities is as low as 3 per cent in some countries,

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<sup>66</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>67</sup> Resolution 61/295, annex.

<sup>68</sup> See A/73/292.

<sup>69</sup> See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

*Deeply concerned* about the impact of disrupted educational services in humanitarian emergencies on efforts to promote literacy skills, especially for all children and young people,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Literacy for life: shaping future agendas and education for democracy”;<sup>68</sup>

2. *Commends* the efforts made by Member States, their development partners, the international donor community, the private sector, civil society and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the lead organization of the United Nations Literacy Decade, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in promoting enjoyment of the right to education, including by making progress on the five strategic axes of action for the period following the Decade;

3. *Calls upon* Governments to scale up literacy programmes for children, youth and adults, including older persons, with particular attention to those who are vulnerable or marginalized, to foster innovative delivery of literacy services, including through technology and a strengthened institutional network, to promote an intersectoral approach by linking literacy learning with multiple sectors to address diverse learning needs, such as through relevant and inclusive educational resources in different languages, to establish multi-stakeholder partnerships with the active participation of civil society and the private sector, to improve distance and digital learning resources and to develop a data-collection mechanism to assess levels of literacy, so as to encourage the integration of literacy learning into vocational training and health education to promote sustainable development;

4. *Encourages* Member States, United Nations organizations, multilateral and bilateral donors, regional organizations, civil society, academia and the private sector to sustain their collective efforts for the promotion of literacy and literate environments and to contribute to shaping the Global Alliance for Literacy within the framework of lifelong learning into an effective platform for synergistic action at the global, regional, national and community levels;

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity, and calls upon Member States and other stakeholders to consider implementing the recommendations contained therein;

6. *Urges* international development partners and Governments to ensure that funds mobilized by and channelled through existing international financing mechanisms for education also explicitly target and benefit youth and adult literacy;

7. *Calls upon* States, and invites other relevant stakeholders, to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>66</sup> including all literacy-related Sustainable Development Goals and targets;

8. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as the specialized United Nations agency for education, to continue its mandated role to lead and coordinate the Education 2030 agenda, in particular through the Sustainable Development Goal Education 2030 Steering Committee, as an inclusive global multi-stakeholder consultation and coordination mechanism for education in the 2030 Agenda in accordance with the 2030 Agenda follow-up and review process;

9. *Requests* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its coordinating and catalysing role through the implementation of the recommendations of the Global Alliance for Literacy and by continuing to provide support to Member States, in collaboration with partners, in enhancing capacities for policy formulation, programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation, as well as sharing information and knowledge on policies, programmes and progress in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal targets connected with literacy, especially target 4.1 on reading skills in primary and lower secondary school (including in indigenous languages) and target 4.6 on youth and adult literacy, and creating synergies of action between the Alliance and other initiatives, including its Global Partnership for Girls’ and Women’s Education and Global Network of Learning Cities;

10. *Encourages* efforts to provide quality education in safe learning environments for all, especially for boys, girls and youth, in humanitarian emergencies to contribute to a smooth transition from relief to development;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “Social development”, the sub-item entitled “Literacy for life: shaping future agendas”.

## RESOLUTION 73/146

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/582, para. 37)<sup>70</sup>

### 73/146. Trafficking in women and girls

*The General Assembly,*

*Reiterating its strong condemnation of human trafficking, especially trafficking in women and children, which constitutes a serious crime and a grave offence to human dignity and physical integrity, a violation and abuse of human rights and a challenge to sustainable development and which requires (a) the implementation of a comprehensive approach that includes partnerships and measures to prevent such trafficking, to prosecute and punish the traffickers, to identify, protect and support the victims of such trafficking and to intensify international cooperation and (b) a criminal justice response proportionate to the serious nature of the offence,*

*Recalling all international conventions that deal specifically with and address issues relevant to the problem of trafficking in women and girls, such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime<sup>71</sup> and the Protocols thereto, in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>72</sup> and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>73</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women<sup>74</sup> and the Optional Protocol thereto,<sup>75</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>76</sup> and the Optional Protocol thereto on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,<sup>77</sup> and the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others,<sup>78</sup> as well as relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions and the Human Rights Council on the issue,*

*Recognizing the crucial importance of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, which provides an internationally agreed definition of the crime of human trafficking aimed at the prevention of human trafficking, the protection of victims and the prosecution of the perpetrators,*

*Welcoming the adoption of the resolution entitled “Establishment of the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Crime and the Protocols thereto” at the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, held in Vienna from 15 to 19 October 2018,*

*Welcoming also the political declaration on the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,<sup>79</sup> adopted by the General Assembly at its high-level meeting during the*

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<sup>70</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia and Zimbabwe.

<sup>71</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

<sup>72</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

<sup>73</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2241, No. 39574.

<sup>74</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>75</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2131, No. 20378.

<sup>76</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>77</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2171, No. 27531.

<sup>78</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 96, No. 1342.

<sup>79</sup> Resolution 72/1.

seventy-second session, in which Member States reiterated, in the strongest possible terms, the importance of strengthening collective action to end human trafficking,

*Reaffirming* the provisions pertaining to trafficking in women and girls contained in the outcome documents of relevant international conferences and summits, in particular the strategic objective on the issue of human trafficking contained in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,<sup>80</sup>

*Recalling* the commitment made by world leaders at the Millennium Summit, the 2005 World Summit and the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals to devise, enforce and strengthen effective measures to combat and eliminate all forms of human trafficking in order to counter the demand for trafficked victims and to protect the victims and prosecute the perpetrators,

*Reaffirming* the commitments made by world leaders at the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, and acknowledging that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>81</sup> inter alia, addresses the elimination of all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including human trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation; the eradication of forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour; and the ending of abuse, exploitation, human trafficking, all forms of violence against and torture of children,

*Recognizing* the importance of a revitalized global partnership to ensure the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including the implementation of the goals and targets related to ending violence against women and girls and human trafficking, and in this regard taking note with appreciation of Alliance 8.7 and of the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the conclusion of the intergovernmental negotiations for a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration, which addresses, inter alia, the issue of human trafficking in the context of international migration, and welcomes the convening of the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, in Marrakech, Morocco, on 10 and 11 December 2018,

*Welcoming in particular* the efforts of States, United Nations bodies and agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to combat human trafficking, especially trafficking in women and children, including the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution [64/293](#) of 30 July 2010,

*Recognizing* the urgency of combating human trafficking in all its forms, including for the purposes of forced or compulsory labour, including of women migrant workers, and in this regard taking note of the adoption by the International Labour Conference on 11 June 2014, at its 103rd session, of the Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), and of the Forced Labour (Supplementary Measures) Recommendation, 2014 (No. 203), of the International Labour Organization,

*Welcoming*, in the agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its sixty-second session,<sup>82</sup> the commitment of Governments to implement comprehensive anti-trafficking strategies that integrate a human rights and sustainable development perspective, including in raising public awareness on the issue of human trafficking, and to ensure that the rights and specific needs of women and girls subjected to human trafficking are addressed in national and international plans, strategies and responses,

*Noting with appreciation* the efforts, including of the human rights treaty bodies and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, other relevant special procedures mandate holders of the Council involved in human trafficking issues, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and United Nations agencies and other concerned intergovernmental and governmental organizations, within their existing mandates, as well as civil society, to address the crime of human trafficking, and encouraging them to continue doing so and to share their knowledge and best practices as widely as possible,

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<sup>80</sup> *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 I, annexes I and II.

<sup>81</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>82</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2018, Supplement No. 7 (E/2018/27)*, chap. I, sect. A.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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*Noting* the relevant contributions of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,<sup>83</sup> and her work in integrating a gender- and age-specific perspective throughout her mandate, in relation to the issue of human trafficking,

*Acknowledging* the inclusion of gender-related crimes in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,<sup>84</sup> which entered into force on 1 July 2002,

*Bearing in mind* the obligations of States to exercise due diligence to prevent human trafficking, to investigate and punish perpetrators of human trafficking and to protect and empower victims, and that not doing so may violate and impair or nullify the enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the victims,

*Seriously concerned* that an increasing number of women and girls are being trafficked, to both developed and developing countries, as well as within and between regions and States, and recognizing that human trafficking disproportionately affects women and girls and that men and boys are also victims of human trafficking, including for sexual exploitation and for the purpose of organ removal,

*Highlighting* the need to incorporate a gender- and age-sensitive approach, taking into account the specific needs of women and girls with disabilities, into all anti-trafficking efforts, and recognizing that women and girls are particularly vulnerable to human trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation, forced marriage, forced labour and other forms of exploitation,

*Recognizing* that pervasive gender inequality, poverty, unemployment, lack of socioeconomic opportunities, gender-based violence, discrimination, including multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, marginalization and persistent demand are among the underlying causes that make women and girls vulnerable to human trafficking,

*Recognizing also* the need to adopt or strengthen legislative or other measures, such as educational, social or cultural measures, including through bilateral and multilateral cooperation, to discourage the demand, which fosters all forms of exploitation of persons, especially women and children, that leads to human trafficking,

*Recognizing further* the role that men and boys can play as agents of change in addressing the harmful impact of gender stereotypes and negative social norms and in preventing violence against women and human trafficking, and underlining the need to educate and engage men and boys for this purpose,

*Recognizing* the heightened vulnerability to trafficking of women and girls in humanitarian crisis situations, including in conflict and post-conflict environments, natural disasters and other emergency environments, as well as the devastating consequences for women and girls in such circumstances, and noting in this regard the Migrants in Countries in Crisis initiative and the Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change, resulting from the Nansen Initiative, while recognizing that not all States are participating in them,

*Recognizing also* that in armed conflict, human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, forced marriage and labour exploitation can be prevalent, and expressing deep concern over its negative impacts on victims of human trafficking,

*Recognizing further* the need to reinforce efforts regarding the provision of relevant documents, such as birth registration documents, in order to lower the risk of women and girls of being subjected to human trafficking and to help to identify victims of human trafficking,

*Recognizing* that, despite the progress made, challenges to preventing and combating trafficking in women and girls and to protecting and assisting the victims of human trafficking remain and that further efforts should be made to adopt and implement adequate legislation and other measures and to continue improving the collection of reliable data disaggregated by sex, age, nationality, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts and other relevant factors and of statistics that would allow proper analysis of the nature, extent and risk factors of trafficking in women and girls,

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<sup>83</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/69/53)*, chap. V, sect. A, resolution 26/8.

<sup>84</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

*Recognizing also* that further work is required both to better understand the link between migration and human trafficking and to develop more effective responses to eliminate the risk of human trafficking in the migration process in order to, inter alia, further efforts to protect women migrant workers from violence, discrimination, exploitation and abuse,

*Concerned* about the use of information and communications technologies, including the Internet, for the purpose of recruiting for the exploitation of the prostitution of others, including for exploiting women and children and for child pornography, including sexual abuse material, paedophilia and any other forms of sexual exploitation and abuse of children, as well as for forced marriage and forced labour, while acknowledging the role that information and communications technologies can play in reducing the risk of sexual abuse and exploitation, including by empowering women and children to report such abuses,

*Recognizing* the potential of information and communications technologies, including the Internet, to prevent and combat human trafficking, in particular trafficking in women and children, and to assist victims,

*Concerned* about the increasing activities of transnational criminal organizations and others that profit from human trafficking, especially trafficking in women and children, without regard to dangerous and inhuman conditions and in flagrant violation of national laws and international standards,

*Noting with concern* that women and girls are also vulnerable to the risk of human trafficking for the purpose of organ removal, and in this regard taking note of Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 25/1 of 27 May 2016, entitled “Preventing and combating trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal”, adopted by the Commission at its twenty-fifth session,<sup>85</sup>

*Recognizing* that victims of human trafficking are particularly exposed to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and that women and girl victims are often subject to multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and violence, including on the grounds of their gender, age, ethnicity, disability, culture and religion, as well as their origin, and that those forms of discrimination themselves may fuel human trafficking,

*Noting with concern* that some of the demand fostering sexual exploitation, labour exploitation and the illegal removal of organs is met by human trafficking, and recognizing that human trafficking is fuelled by high profits for traffickers and demand that fosters all forms of exploitation,

*Acknowledging* that women and girl victims of human trafficking, owing to pervasive and persistent gender inequality, are further disadvantaged and marginalized by a general lack of information on or awareness and recognition of their human rights and by the stigmatization often associated with human trafficking, as well as by the obstacles they meet in gaining access to accurate information and recourse mechanisms in cases of the violations and abuses of their rights, and that special measures are required for their protection and to increase their awareness,

*Taking note* of the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted in April 2015,<sup>86</sup> which expresses the importance of implementing a victim-oriented approach to prevent and counter all forms of human trafficking for the purpose of exploitation, including the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs, where appropriate, in accordance with the provisions of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,

*Reaffirming* the importance of bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and initiatives, including information exchanges on best practices, of Governments, intergovernmental and civil society organizations, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders, to address the problem of human trafficking, especially trafficking in women and children,

*Reaffirming also* that global efforts, including international cooperation and technical assistance programmes, to eradicate human trafficking, especially trafficking in women and children, demand the strong political commitment, coordinated and coherent efforts and active cooperation of all Governments of countries of origin, transit and destination,

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<sup>85</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2016, Supplement No. 10 (E/2016/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.

<sup>86</sup> Resolution 70/174, annex.



## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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*Recognizing* that policies and programmes for prevention, protection, rehabilitation, recovery, repatriation and reintegration should be developed through a gender- and age-sensitive, comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach, with concern for the security and privacy of the victims and respect for the full enjoyment of their human rights and with the involvement of all relevant actors in countries of origin, transit and destination,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>87</sup> which provides information on measures by States and activities within the United Nations system to tackle trafficking in women and girls;

2. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the information submitted by Member States and United Nations entities on measures and activities undertaken to combat trafficking in women and girls, and urges Member States and United Nations entities that have not done so to submit the requested information for inclusion in the report of the Secretary-General;

3. *Takes note* of the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children;<sup>88</sup>

4. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, as a matter of priority, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime<sup>71</sup> and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>72</sup> taking into consideration the central role of those instruments in the fight against human trafficking, and urges States parties to those instruments to implement them fully and effectively;

5. *Urges* Member States to consider signing and ratifying, and States parties to implement, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women<sup>74</sup> and the Optional Protocol thereto,<sup>75</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>76</sup> and the Optional Protocols thereto<sup>89</sup> and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,<sup>90</sup> as well as the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)<sup>91</sup> and the Protocol thereto, the Labour Inspection Convention, 1947 (No. 81),<sup>92</sup> the Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97),<sup>93</sup> the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111),<sup>94</sup> the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138),<sup>95</sup> the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143),<sup>96</sup> the Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181),<sup>97</sup> the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182),<sup>98</sup> and the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189), of the International Labour Organization;

6. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and other international, regional and subregional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the media, to fully and effectively implement the relevant provisions of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons<sup>99</sup> and the activities outlined therein;

7. *Welcomes* the efforts of Governments, United Nations bodies and agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to prevent and address the particular problem of trafficking in women and girls and encourages them to further enhance their efforts and cooperation, including by sharing their knowledge, technical

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<sup>87</sup> [A/73/263](#).

<sup>88</sup> [A/73/171](#) and [A/HRC/38/45](#).

<sup>89</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution [66/138](#), annex.

<sup>90</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

<sup>91</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 39, No. 612.

<sup>92</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 54, No. 792.

<sup>93</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 120, No. 1616.

<sup>94</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 362, No. 5181.

<sup>95</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1015, No. 14862.

<sup>96</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1120, No. 17426.

<sup>97</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2115, No. 36794.

<sup>98</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2133, No. 37245.

<sup>99</sup> Resolution [64/293](#).

expertise and best practices as widely as possible, and encourages Member States to strengthen cooperation among all relevant actors to identify and disrupt illicit financial flows stemming from trafficking in women and girls;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the outcome document of the Regional Ministerial Conference on Human Trafficking and Smuggling in the Horn of Africa, known as the Khartoum Declaration, and calls for its effective implementation, including through technical cooperation and capacity-building, by the United Nations and the international community;

9. *Encourages* the Commission on the Status of Women to consider addressing the needs of, inter alia, women and girls subjected to human trafficking at its sixty-third and sixty-fourth sessions, within the framework of the priority themes;

10. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders to observe the World Day against Trafficking in Persons, in the context of the need to raise awareness of the situation of victims of human trafficking and for the promotion and protection of their rights;

11. *Encourages* the United Nations system to mainstream, as appropriate, the issue of human trafficking, especially trafficking in women and girls, into its broader policies and programmes aimed at addressing economic and social development, human rights, the rule of law, good governance, education, health and natural disaster and post-conflict reconstruction;

12. *Welcomes* the continued focus given by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) to ending violence against women and girls and to increasing women's access to economic opportunities, as well as its work on building effective partnerships for the empowerment of women and girls, which will contribute to the efforts to combat human trafficking;

13. *Calls upon* Governments to intensify their efforts to prevent and address, with a view to eliminating, the demand that fosters the trafficking of women and girls for all forms of exploitation and in this regard to put in place or to enhance preventive measures, including legislative and punitive measures to deter exploiters of trafficked persons, as well as ensure their accountability;

14. *Takes note* of the basic principles on the right to an effective remedy for victims of trafficking in persons;<sup>100</sup>

15. *Calls upon* Governments to strengthen measures aimed at achieving gender equality and empowering women and girls by, inter alia, enhancing their participation and leadership in society, including through education, economic empowerment and promoting an increase in the number of women assuming decision-making roles in both the public and private sectors, to take further appropriate measures to address the increasing rate of homelessness of and inadequate housing for women in order to reduce their vulnerability to being trafficked and, in that regard, to improve the collection and use of data disaggregated by sex, age and disability to inform such measures;

16. *Also calls upon* Governments to take appropriate preventive measures to address the underlying causes as well as risk factors that increase vulnerability to human trafficking, including poverty, gender inequality, gender stereotypes and negative social norms, including discrimination and violence against women and girls, including impunity for such violence, and the persistent demand that fosters all forms of trafficking and the goods and services produced as a result of human trafficking, as well as other factors that encourage the particular problem of trafficking in women and girls for exploitation, including in prostitution and other forms of commercialized sex, forced marriage, forced labour and organ removal, in order to prevent and eliminate such trafficking, including by strengthening existing legislation, with a view to providing better protection of the rights of women and girls and punishing perpetrators, including public officials engaging in or facilitating human trafficking, through, as appropriate, criminal and civil measures;

17. *Calls upon* Governments, the international community and all other organizations and entities that deal with conflict, post-conflict, disaster and other emergency situations to address the heightened vulnerability of women and girls to human trafficking and exploitation and associated gender-based violence, inter alia, that perpetuated by traffickers in digital spaces, and to prevent the trafficking of affected women and girls through all such national, regional and international initiatives;

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<sup>100</sup> A/69/269, annex.

18. *Urges* Governments to devise, enforce and strengthen effective gender- and age-sensitive measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in women and girls, including for sexual and economic exploitation, as part of a comprehensive anti-trafficking strategy that integrates a human rights perspective, and to draw up, as appropriate, national action plans in this regard;

19. *Also urges* Governments to ensure that the prevention of and responses to human trafficking continue to take into account the specific needs of women and girls and their participation in and contribution to all phases of preventing and responding to human trafficking, especially in addressing specific forms of exploitation, such as sexual exploitation;

20. *Further urges* Governments, in cooperation with intergovernmental, non-governmental and private sector organizations, to support and allocate resources to strengthen preventive action, in particular education for women and men, as well as for girls and boys, on human rights, gender equality, self-respect and mutual respect, and campaigns carried out in collaboration with civil society and the private sector to increase public awareness of the issue at the national and grass-roots levels, including awareness-raising campaigns against human trafficking and slavery, including modern slavery, targeted at groups that are at increased risk of becoming victims of human trafficking, as well as at those who may fuel the demand that contributes to human trafficking;

21. *Reiterates* the importance of continued coordination among, inter alia, the Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material, and on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, in order to avoid unnecessary duplication in their activities in the fulfilment of their mandates;

22. *Urges* Governments to strengthen measures to eliminate sex tourism demand, especially for children, through all possible preventive actions, including legislative measures and other relevant policies and programmes, and to develop age-appropriate educational and training programmes and policies aimed at preventing sex tourism and human trafficking, giving special emphasis to the protection of young women and children;

23. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Tourism Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to promote their global campaign urging travellers to support the fight against human trafficking, especially trafficking in women and girls;

24. *Calls upon* Member States to take into consideration the challenges presented by new methods of recruiting victims of human trafficking, such as the misuse of the Internet by human traffickers, in particular for recruiting children, to take measures to develop targeted awareness-raising campaigns, including for law enforcement, front-line service providers and at-risk industries, to identify the signs of human trafficking, and to develop specialized training for law enforcement and criminal justice practitioners;

25. *Encourages* Member States to establish or strengthen national programmes and to engage in bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation, including by forging regional initiatives or plans of action,<sup>101</sup> to address the problem of human trafficking through, inter alia, the enhancement of information-sharing, data disaggregated by sex and age, specific data collection and other technical capacities and mutual legal assistance, as well as the combating of corruption and laundering of proceeds derived from human trafficking, including for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation, and to ensure, as appropriate, that such agreements and initiatives are particularly responsive to the problem of human trafficking as it affects women and girls;

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<sup>101</sup> Such as the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking, the Action Plan for the Asia-Pacific region of the Asian Regional Initiative against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (see [A/C.3/55/3](#), annex), the initiatives of the European Union on a comprehensive European policy and programmes on trafficking in human beings, as expressed most recently in the European Union plan on best practices, standards and procedures for combating and preventing trafficking in human beings, adopted in December 2005, the activities of the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution, the Organization of American States Meeting of National Authorities on Trafficking in Persons, the Agreement on the Cooperation of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Combating Trafficking in Persons, Human Organs and Tissues, the Inter-American Programme for the Prevention and Eradication of Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Smuggling of and Trafficking in Children, and the activities of the International Labour Organization and the International Organization for Migration in this field.

26. *Calls upon* all Governments to criminalize all forms of human trafficking, recognizing its increasing occurrence for the purpose of sexual exploitation, commercial sexual exploitation and abuse, sex tourism and forced labour, and to bring to justice and punish the offenders and intermediaries involved, including public officials involved with human trafficking, whether local or foreign, through the competent national authorities, either in the country of origin of the offender or in the country in which the abuse occurs, in accordance with the due process of law, as well as to penalize persons in authority found guilty of sexually assaulting victims of human trafficking in their custody;

27. *Urges* Governments, in accordance with their respective legal systems, to take all appropriate measures, including through policies and legislation, to ensure that victims of human trafficking are protected from prosecution or punishment for acts those victims have been compelled to commit as a direct consequence of having been subjected to human trafficking and that the victims do not suffer from revictimization as a result of actions taken by Government authorities, and encourages Governments to prevent, within their legal framework and in accordance with national policies, victims of human trafficking from being prosecuted or punished as a direct consequence of their illegal entry or residence;

28. *Invites* Governments to consider establishing or strengthening a national mechanism, with the participation of civil society, as appropriate, including non-governmental organizations, such as women's organizations, and survivors of human trafficking, to ensure a holistic and coordinated approach to anti-trafficking policies and measures, to encourage the exchange of information and to report on data, underlying causes, factors and trends in human trafficking, especially trafficking in women and girls, and to include data on victims of human trafficking disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant factors;

29. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, to continue to cooperate with international, regional and national mechanisms to combat human trafficking, in consultation with Governments, relevant treaty bodies, special procedures, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, national human rights institutions and other sources, including victims of human trafficking or their representatives, as appropriate;

30. *Encourages* Governments and relevant United Nations bodies, from within existing resources, to take appropriate measures to raise public awareness of the issue of human trafficking, particularly trafficking in women and girls, including the factors that make women and girls vulnerable to human trafficking, to discourage, with a view to eliminating, the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation, including sexual exploitation and forced labour, to publicize the laws, regulations and penalties relating to this issue and to emphasize that human trafficking is a serious crime;

31. *Calls upon* concerned Governments to allocate resources, as appropriate, to provide access to appropriate programmes for the physical, psychological and social recovery of victims of human trafficking, including sexual and reproductive health-care services that include affordable treatment, care and support services for HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections, free of stigma and discrimination, as well as comprehensive information and voluntary counselling, and to take measures to cooperate with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide for the social, medical and psychological care of the victims in ways that protect their privacy and identity;

32. *Calls upon* Governments to promote the empowerment of women and girls, including survivors of human trafficking, in all stages of humanitarian response and to consider providing adequate access to redress;

33. *Encourages* Governments, in line with their obligations under international law, to prevent, combat and eradicate human trafficking in the context of international migration, including by identifying and supporting victims of human trafficking, and to cooperate with relevant stakeholders to undertake or strengthen campaigns to inform migrants, including migrant women, of the risks associated with human trafficking;

34. *Strongly urges* Governments to ensure coherence between the laws on and measures responding to migration, labour and human trafficking to protect the human rights of migrant women and girls throughout the migration and employment process as well as the repatriation process, when applicable, and to provide effective protection against human trafficking;

35. *Invites* States, together with relevant United Nations entities, to undertake further research into the links between migration and human trafficking to guide the development of age- and gender-sensitive policies and programmes that address the vulnerability of women and girl migrants;

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36. *Encourages* Governments to review and strengthen, as appropriate, the enforcement of relevant labour and other laws within their territories or jurisdictions that are aimed at, or have the effect of, requiring business enterprises, including recruitment agencies, to prevent and combat human trafficking in supply chains, and to periodically assess the adequacy of such laws and address any gaps;

37. *Invites* the business sector to consider the adoption of ethical codes of conduct to ensure decent work and to prevent any form of exploitative practices that foster human trafficking;

38. *Encourages* Governments to intensify collaboration with non-governmental organizations, including women's organizations, to develop and implement gender- and age-sensitive programmes for effective counselling, training and reintegration into society of victims of human trafficking and programmes that provide shelter and helplines to victims or potential victims in ways that protect their privacy and identity;

39. *Urges* Governments to provide or strengthen training for, and to raise awareness among, law enforcement, judicial, immigration and other relevant officials on the prevention and combating of human trafficking, including the sexual exploitation of women and girls, and in this regard calls upon Governments to ensure that the treatment of victims of human trafficking, especially by law enforcement officials, immigration officers, consular officials, social workers, health service providers and other first response officials, is conducted with full respect for the human rights of those victims and with gender and age sensitivity and observes the principles of non-discrimination, including the prohibition of racial discrimination;

40. *Invites* Member States to provide training for law enforcement and border control officials, as well as medical personnel, in identifying potential cases of human trafficking for the purpose of organ removal;

41. *Invites* Governments to take steps to ensure that criminal justice procedures and witness protection programmes are sensitive to the particular situation of women and girls subjected to human trafficking and that they are supported and assisted, as appropriate, in making complaints to the police or other authorities, without fear and with due regard for the protection of their privacy and their identity, and are available, when required, to the criminal justice system, and to ensure that during this time they have access to gender- and age-sensitive protection and, as appropriate, social, medical, financial and legal assistance, including the possibility of obtaining compensation for damages suffered;

42. *Also invites* Governments to intensify efforts aimed at the speedy disposition of cases of human trafficking and, in cooperation with, inter alia, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to devise, enforce and strengthen systems and mechanisms for combating human trafficking;

43. *Further invites* Governments to encourage media providers, including Internet service providers, to adopt or strengthen self-regulatory measures to promote the responsible use of media, particularly the Internet, with a view to eliminating the exploitation of women and children, in particular girls, which could foster human trafficking;

44. *Encourages* Governments to develop and implement strategies that promote safe access to media and to information and communications technologies in order to prevent and eradicate trafficking in women and girls, including increasing women's and girls' digital literacy and access to information;

45. *Invites* the business sector, in particular the tourism, travel and telecommunications industries, relevant recruitment agencies and mass media organizations, to cooperate with Governments in eliminating trafficking in women and children, in particular girls, including through the dissemination by the media of information regarding the dangers of human trafficking, the means used by traffickers, the rights of persons subjected to human trafficking and the services available to them;

46. *Stresses* the need for the systematic collection of data disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant factors and comprehensive studies at both the national and the international levels, and in this regard takes note of the publication of the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the development of common methodologies and internationally defined indicators to make it possible to develop relevant and comparable figures, and encourages Governments to enhance information-sharing and data-collection capacity as a way of promoting cooperation to combat human trafficking;

47. *Invites* Governments, United Nations bodies, agencies and special mechanisms, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the private sector to continue collaborative and joint research and studies on trafficking in women and girls that can serve as a basis for policy formulation or change;

48. *Invites* Governments, with the support of the United Nations, when necessary, and other intergovernmental organizations, taking into account best practices, to formulate training manuals and other informational materials and to provide training for law enforcement, judicial and other relevant officials and medical and support personnel, with a view to sensitizing them to the special needs of women and girl victims of human trafficking;

49. *Calls upon* Governments, and encourages relevant intergovernmental bodies and international organizations, to ensure that military, peacekeeping and humanitarian personnel deployed in conflict, post-conflict and other emergency situations are provided with training on conduct that does not promote, facilitate or exploit trafficking in women and girls, including for sexual exploitation, and to raise the awareness of such personnel about the potential risks that victims of conflict and other emergency situations, including natural disasters, face of being subjected to human trafficking;

50. *Invites* States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>102</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights<sup>102</sup> and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families<sup>90</sup> to include information and disaggregated statistics on trafficking in women and girls as part of their national reports to the respective committees, as applicable;

51. *Invites* States to continue to contribute to the United Nations voluntary trust fund on contemporary forms of slavery and to the United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children;

52. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report that compiles information on successful interventions and strategies, as well as the gaps, in addressing the gender dimensions of the problem of human trafficking and provides recommendations on the strengthening of human rights-based, victim-centred and gender- and age-sensitive approaches within comprehensive and balanced efforts to address human trafficking, including in the prosecution of traffickers and protection of victims.

### RESOLUTION 73/147

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/582, para. 37)<sup>103</sup>

#### 73/147. Intensification of efforts to end obstetric fistula

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 62/138 of 18 December 2007, 63/158 of 18 December 2008, 65/188 of 21 December 2010 and 67/147 of 20 December 2012 on supporting efforts to end obstetric fistula and its resolutions 69/148 of 18 December 2014 and 71/169 of 19 December 2016 on the intensification of efforts to end obstetric fistula,

*Reaffirming* the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,<sup>104</sup> the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first

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<sup>102</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>103</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

<sup>104</sup> *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 I, annexes I and II.



century”,<sup>105</sup> the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development<sup>106</sup> and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,<sup>107</sup> and their reviews, and the international commitments in the field of social development and to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls made at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance<sup>108</sup> and the 2005 World Summit,<sup>109</sup> as well as those made in the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,<sup>110</sup>

*Reaffirming also* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>111</sup> which marks its seventieth anniversary in 2018, as well as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>112</sup> and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>113</sup> recalling the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights<sup>114</sup> and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>114</sup> and urging States that have not done so to consider, as a matter of priority, signing, ratifying or acceding to those conventions and the optional protocols thereto,<sup>115</sup>

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General<sup>116</sup> and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein,

*Recognizing* that intensified national ownership and leadership, political commitment and scaled-up national capacity are urgently needed to accelerate progress towards the elimination of fistula, including by implementing strategies to prevent new cases and treating all existing cases with special attention paid to countries with the highest maternal mortality and morbidity levels,

*Stressing* the interlinkages between poverty, malnutrition, lack of or inadequate or inaccessible health-care services, early childbearing, child, early and forced marriage, violence against young women and girls, sociocultural barriers, marginalization, illiteracy and gender inequality as root causes of obstetric fistula, and that poverty remains the main social risk factor,

*Stressing also* that obstetric fistula can be a cause of devastating lifelong morbidity if left untreated, with severe medical, social, psychological and economic consequences, that approximately 90 per cent of women who develop fistula deliver stillborn babies and that misperceptions about its cause often result in stigma and ostracism,

*Recognizing* that the difficult socioeconomic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, have resulted in the acceleration of the feminization of poverty,

*Recognizing also* that early childbearing increases the risk of complications during pregnancy and delivery and entails a much higher risk of maternal mortality and morbidity, and deeply concerned that early childbearing and limited access to the highest attainable standard of mental and physical health, including sexual and reproductive health, specifically timely access to high-quality emergency obstetric care, cause high levels of obstetric fistula and other maternal morbidities, as well as maternal mortality,

*Recognizing further* that adolescent girls, in particular those who live in poverty or who are marginalized, are at particular risk of maternal death and morbidity, including obstetric fistula, and concerned that the leading cause of

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<sup>105</sup> Resolution [S-23/2](#), annex, and resolution [S-23/3](#), annex.

<sup>106</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>107</sup> *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

<sup>108</sup> See [A/CONF.189/12](#) and [A/CONF.189/12/Corr.1](#), chap. I.

<sup>109</sup> Resolution [60/1](#).

<sup>110</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>111</sup> Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

<sup>112</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>113</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>114</sup> See resolution [2200 A \(XXI\)](#), annex.

<sup>115</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2131, No. 20378; *ibid.*, vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; resolution [66/138](#), annex; and resolution [63/117](#), annex.

<sup>116</sup> [A/73/285](#).

death among girls aged 15 to 19 in many low- and middle-income countries is complications from pregnancy and childbirth and that women aged 30 and older are at increased risk of developing complications and of dying during childbirth,

*Recognizing* that lack of access to sexual and reproductive health, especially emergency obstetric, services, including in humanitarian settings, remains among the leading causes of obstetric fistula, leading to ill health and death for women and girls of childbearing age in many regions of the world, and that a dramatic and sustainable scaling-up of quality treatment and health-care services, including high-quality emergency obstetric services, and of the number of trained, competent fistula surgeons and midwives is needed to significantly reduce maternal and newborn mortality and to eradicate obstetric fistula,

*Noting* that a human rights-based approach to eliminating obstetric fistula and efforts to eliminate obstetric fistula should be underpinned by, inter alia, accountability, participation, transparency, empowerment, sustainability, non-discrimination and international cooperation,

*Deeply concerned* about discrimination against and marginalization of women and girls, in particular those who are facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, which often result in reduced access to education and nutrition, compromising their physical and mental health and well-being and the enjoyment of their human rights and the opportunities and benefits of childhood and adolescence compared with boys, and often in their being subjected to various forms of cultural, social, sexual and economic exploitation and abuse, violence and harmful practices, which can increase the risk of obstetric fistula,

*Deeply concerned also* about the situation of women and girls living with or recovering from obstetric fistula, who are often neglected and stigmatized, which may lead to negative effects on their mental health, resulting in depression and suicide, and are driven deeper into poverty and marginalization,

*Recognizing* the need to raise awareness among men and adolescent boys and, in this context, to fully engage men and community leaders as strategic partners and allies in the efforts to address and eliminate obstetric fistula,

*Welcoming* the contribution by Member States, the international community, the private sector and civil society to the global Campaign to End Fistula led by the United Nations Population Fund, bearing in mind that a people-centred approach to social and economic development is fundamental for protecting and empowering individuals and communities,

*Deeply concerned* that, as the global Campaign to End Fistula completes its fifteenth anniversary, while some progress has been made, significant challenges remain that require the intensification of efforts at all levels to end obstetric fistula,

*Deeply concerned also* about the insufficient resources for addressing obstetric fistula in high-burden countries, compounded by the low levels of development assistance for maternal and newborn health, which have declined in recent years, and the substantial need for additional resources and support for the global Campaign to End Fistula and for national and regional initiatives dedicated to improving maternal health and eliminating obstetric fistula,

*Noting* the Secretary-General's revised Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health (2016–2030), undertaken by a broad coalition of partners, in support of national plans and strategies that aim for the highest attainable standards of health and well-being, physical, mental and social, at every age, ending maternal and newborn mortality, which is preventable, and noting that this can contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Welcoming* the various national, regional and international initiatives on all the Sustainable Development Goals and the global Campaign to End Fistula, including those undertaken bilaterally and through South-South cooperation, in support of national plans and strategies in sectors such as health, education, finance, gender equality, energy, water and sanitation, poverty eradication and nutrition as a way to reduce the number of maternal, newborn and under-5 child deaths,

*Welcoming also* ongoing partnerships between stakeholders at all levels to address the multifaceted determinants of maternal, newborn and child health, in close coordination with Member States, based on their needs and priorities, and in this regard welcoming further the commitments to accelerate progress on the health-related Sustainable Development Goals by 2030,

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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1. *Reaffirms* the commitments made by Member States to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, and recognizes that the efforts to end obstetric fistula within a decade will contribute to the achievement of the Goals by 2030;
2. *Stresses* the need to address the interlinkages between poverty, lack of or inadequate education for women and girls, gender inequality, lack of or inadequate access to health-care services, including sexual and reproductive health-care services, early childbearing and child, early and forced marriage as root causes of obstetric fistula, and calls upon States, in collaboration with the international community, to take accelerated action to address the situation;
3. *Calls upon* States to take all measures necessary to ensure the right of women and girls to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health, including sexual and reproductive health, and reproductive rights, in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,<sup>106</sup> the Beijing Platform for Action<sup>117</sup> and the outcome documents of their review conferences, and to develop sustainable health systems and social services, with a view to ensuring universal access to such systems and services without discrimination, while paying special attention to adequate food and nutrition, water and sanitation, family planning information, increasing women's empowerment, knowledge and awareness and ensuring equitable access to high-quality appropriate prenatal and delivery care for the prevention of obstetric fistula and the reduction of health inequities, as well as postnatal care for the detection and early management of fistula cases;
4. *Also calls upon* States to ensure equitable coverage and timely access, by means of national plans, policies and programmes, to health-care services, in particular emergency obstetric and newborn care, skilled birth attendance, obstetric fistula treatment and family planning, that are financially affordable, accessible and culturally sensitive, especially in rural and the most-remote areas;
5. *Further calls upon* States to ensure the right to education of good quality for women and girls, on an equal basis with men and boys, and to ensure that they complete a full course of primary education, and to renew their efforts to improve and expand girls' and women's education at all levels, including at the secondary and higher levels, including age-appropriate sex education, as well as vocational education and technical training, in order to, inter alia, achieve gender equality, the empowerment of women and girls and poverty eradication;
6. *Urges* States to enact and strictly enforce laws to ensure that marriage, including in rural and remote areas, is entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses and, in addition, to enact and strictly enforce laws concerning the minimum legal age of consent and the minimum age for marriage and to raise the minimum age for marriage, where necessary;
7. *Calls upon* the international community to provide intensified technical and financial support, in particular to high-burden countries, to accelerate progress towards the elimination of obstetric fistula within a decade, which can contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and leave no one behind;
8. *Urges* the international community to provide and enhance the necessary resources and capacity-building, upon the request of Member States, in order to treat fistula cases through surgery, leading to the reintegration of affected women and girls into their communities, with appropriate psychosocial, medical and economic support to restore their well-being and dignity;
9. *Urges* multilateral donors, international financial institutions and regional development banks in the public and private sectors, within their respective mandates, to review and implement policies to support national efforts and institutional capacity-building to end obstetric fistula and to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reach young women and girls, in particular in rural and remote areas and the poorest urban areas, as well as to ensure that needed funding is increased, predictable and sustained;
10. *Calls upon* the international community to support the activities of the United Nations Population Fund and other partners, including the World Health Organization, in the global Campaign to End Fistula in establishing and financing regional fistula treatment and training centres and, where necessary, national centres, by identifying and supporting health facilities that have the potential to serve as centres for treatment, training and convalescent care;

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<sup>117</sup> *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 I, annex II.

11. *Calls upon* States to accelerate progress to improve maternal health by addressing sexual and reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health in a comprehensive manner, inter alia, through the provision of family planning, prenatal care, skilled attendance at birth, including midwives, emergency obstetric and newborn care, postnatal care and methods of prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases and infections, such as HIV, within strengthened health-care systems that provide universal access to affordable, equitable and high-quality integrated health-care services and include community-based preventive and clinical care, towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>110</sup>

12. *Urges* the international community to address the shortage and inequitable distribution of doctors, surgeons, midwives, nurses and other health-care workers trained in life-saving obstetric care, and of space and supplies, which limit the capacity of most fistula centres;

13. *Commends* the commemoration by the international community of 23 May as the International Day to End Obstetric Fistula and the decision to continue to use the International Day each year to significantly raise awareness, intensify actions and mobilize support towards ending obstetric fistula;

14. *Calls upon* States and/or the relevant funds and programmes, organs and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, and invites the international financial institutions and all relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, and the private sector, to end obstetric fistula within a decade by:

(a) Redoubling their efforts to meet the internationally agreed goal of improving maternal health by making maternal health-care services and obstetric fistula treatment geographically and financially accessible, including by ensuring universal access to skilled attendance at birth and timely access to high-quality emergency obstetric care and family planning, as well as appropriate prenatal and postnatal care;

(b) Making greater investments in strengthening health systems, ensuring adequately trained and skilled human resources, especially midwives, obstetricians, gynaecologists and doctors, and providing support for the development and maintenance of infrastructure, as well as investments in referral mechanisms, equipment and supply chains, to improve maternal and newborn health-care services and ensure that women and girls have access to the full continuum of care, with functional quality control and monitoring mechanisms in place for all areas of service delivery;

(c) Supporting the training of doctors and surgeons, nurses and other health-care workers in life-saving obstetric care, especially midwives, who are the front-line workers in the fight to prevent obstetric fistula and maternal and newborn mortality, including training on fistula prevention, treatment and care as a standard element of the training curricula of health professionals;

(d) Ensuring universal access through national policies, plans and programmes that make maternal and newborn health-care services, particularly family planning, skilled attendance at birth, emergency obstetric and newborn care and obstetric fistula treatment, financially accessible and affordable, including in rural and remote areas and among the poorest women and girls through, where appropriate, the establishment and distribution of health-care facilities and trained medical personnel, collaboration with the transport sector for affordable transport options, support for developing and maintaining infrastructure to improve maternal and newborn health-care services and to strengthen the capacity for surgery, the promotion of and support for community-based solutions and the provision of incentives and other means to secure the presence in rural and remote areas of qualified health-care professionals who are able to perform interventions to prevent obstetric fistula;

(e) Developing, implementing, following up on and supporting national and international prevention, care and treatment and socioeconomic reintegration and support strategies, policies and plans to eliminate obstetric fistula within a decade by developing further multisectoral, multidisciplinary, comprehensive and integrated action plans in order to bring about lasting solutions and put an end to maternal mortality and morbidity and obstetric fistula, which is preventable and treatable, including by ensuring access to affordable, accessible, comprehensive, high-quality maternal health-care services, and, within countries, incorporating into all sectors of national budgets policy and programmatic approaches to address inequities and reach poor women and girls and those in vulnerable situations;

(f) Establishing or strengthening, as appropriate, a national task force for obstetric fistula, with a lead governmental entity, to enhance national coordination and improve partner collaboration to end obstetric fistula, including partnering with in-country efforts, to increase surgical capacity and to promote universal access to essential and life-saving surgery;

(g) Strengthening the capacity of health-care systems, in particular public health systems, to provide the essential services needed to prevent obstetric fistula and to treat existing cases by increasing national budgets for health, ensuring that adequate funds are allocated to reproductive health, including for obstetric fistula, ensuring access to fistula treatment through increased availability of trained, expert fistula surgeons and permanent, holistic fistula services integrated into strategically selected hospitals, thereby addressing the significant backlog of women and girls awaiting surgical repair of fistula, and encouraging communication among fistula centres to facilitate training, research, advocacy and fundraising and the application of relevant medical standards, including consideration of the use of the World Health Organization manual entitled *Obstetric Fistula: Guiding Principles for Clinical Management and Programme Development*, which provides background information and principles for developing fistula prevention and treatment programmes, as appropriate;

(h) Mobilizing funding to provide free or adequately subsidized maternal health-care and obstetric fistula repair and treatment services, including by encouraging networking among providers and the sharing of new treatment techniques and protocols to protect women's and children's well-being and survival and to prevent the recurrence of subsequent fistulas by making post-surgery follow-up and the tracking of fistula patients a routine and key component of all fistula programmes, and also to ensure access to elective caesarean sections for fistula survivors who become pregnant again in order to prevent fistula recurrence and to increase the chances of survival of mother and baby in all subsequent pregnancies;

(i) Increasing national budgets and harnessing domestic resources for health, ensuring that adequate funds are allocated to prevent obstetric fistula and to treat existing cases, and for strengthening the capacity of health-care systems to provide the essential services needed in this regard;

(j) Ensuring that all women and girls who have undergone fistula treatment, including the forgotten women and girls whose conditions are deemed incurable or inoperable, are provided with and have access to comprehensive health-care services, holistic social integration services and careful follow-up, including counselling, education, family planning, socioeconomic empowerment, social protection and psychosocial services, for as long as needed, through, inter alia, skills development, family and community support and income-generating activities, so that they can overcome abandonment, stigma, ostracism and economic and social exclusion, and developing linkages with civil society organizations and women's and girls' empowerment programmes so as to help to achieve this goal;

(k) Empowering fistula survivors to make informed decisions about their lives and to contribute to community sensitization and mobilization as advocates for fistula elimination, safe motherhood and newborn survival, and supporting the exercise of their voice, agency and leadership;

(l) Accelerating efforts to improve the health of women and girls globally, with an increased focus on social determinants that affect their well-being and that include the provision of universal access to quality education for women and girls, economic empowerment, with access to microcredit, savings and microfinancing, legal reforms, the promotion and support of their meaningful participation in decision-making at all levels, and social initiatives, including legal literacy to protect women and girls from violence and discrimination, child, early and forced marriage and early pregnancy;

(m) Educating individual women and men, girls and boys, communities, policymakers and health professionals about how obstetric fistula can be prevented and treated, and increasing awareness of the needs of pregnant women and girls, as well as of those who have undergone surgical fistula repair, including their right to the highest attainable standard of mental and physical health, including sexual and reproductive health, by working with community and religious leaders, traditional birth attendants and midwives, women and girls who have suffered from fistula, the media, social workers, civil society, women's organizations, influential public figures and policymakers;

(n) Enhancing the participation of men and adolescent boys in the intensification of efforts to end obstetric fistula and further strengthening their involvement as partners, including in the global Campaign to End Fistula;

(o) Strengthening awareness-raising and advocacy, including through the media, to effectively reach families and communities with key messages on fistula prevention and treatment and social reintegration;

(p) Strengthening research, monitoring and evaluation systems, including by developing a community- and facility-based mechanism for the systematic notification of obstetric fistula cases and maternal and newborn deaths to ministries of health, and their recording in a national register, and by acknowledging obstetric fistula as a nationally notifiable condition, triggering immediate reporting, tracking and follow-up for the purpose of guiding the development and implementation of maternal health programmes and ending fistula within a decade;

(q) Strengthening research, data collection, monitoring and evaluation to guide the planning and implementation of maternal health programmes, including for obstetric fistula, by conducting up-to-date needs assessments on emergency obstetric and newborn care and for fistula and routine reviews of maternal deaths and near-miss cases as part of a national maternal death surveillance and response system, integrated within national health information systems;

(r) Improving data collection, pre- and post-surgery, to measure progress in addressing needs for surgical treatment and the quality of surgery, rehabilitation and socioeconomic reintegration services, including post-surgery prospects for successful subsequent pregnancies, live births and severe health-related complications, so as to address the challenges of improving maternal health;

(s) Providing essential health-care services, equipment and supplies, education, skills training and income-generating projects and support to women and girls so that they can break out of the cycle of poverty;

15. *Encourages* Member States to contribute to efforts to end obstetric fistula, including, in particular, through the global Campaign to End Fistula, to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and to commit themselves to continued efforts to improve maternal and newborn health, with the aim of eliminating obstetric fistula globally within a decade;

16. *Requests* the global Campaign to End Fistula to develop a road map that will accelerate action to end obstetric fistula within a decade, towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including for enhancing financial resources for interventions at the local, subnational, national, regional and international levels, in order to support countries and relevant United Nations organizations in the prevention, treatment and care of obstetric fistula;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report with specific updated statistics and disaggregated data on obstetric fistula and the challenges faced by Member States in implementing the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session under the item entitled “Advancement of women”.

## RESOLUTION 73/148

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/582, para. 37)<sup>118</sup>

### **73/148. Intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: sexual harassment**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 61/143 of 19 December 2006, 62/133 of 18 December 2007, 63/155 of 18 December 2008, 64/137 of 18 December 2009, 65/187 of 21 December 2010, 67/144 of 20 December 2012, 69/147 of 18 December 2014 and all its previous resolutions on the elimination of violence against women, as well as its resolution 71/170 of 19 December 2016 on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls,

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>119</sup> and noting that 2018 marks its seventieth anniversary,

<sup>118</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia and Zimbabwe.

<sup>119</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).



*Reaffirming also* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>120</sup> and noting that 2018 marks its twenty-fifth anniversary,

*Recalling* Human Rights Council resolution 38/5 of 5 July 2018, entitled “Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls: preventing and responding to violence against women and girls in digital contexts”,<sup>121</sup>

*Taking note* of the agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women at its sixty-first session<sup>122</sup> and Commission resolution 61/1 of 24 March 2017 on preventing and eliminating sexual harassment in the workplace,<sup>123</sup>

*Reaffirming* the obligation of all States to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and reaffirming also that discrimination on the basis of sex is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>124</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>124</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women<sup>125</sup> and the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto,<sup>126</sup>

*Reaffirming also* the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,<sup>127</sup> the Beijing Declaration<sup>128</sup> and Platform for Action,<sup>129</sup> the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development<sup>130</sup> and the outcomes of their review conferences, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,<sup>131</sup>

*Recalling* the commitment to eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation, contained in Sustainable Development Goal 5, in particular target 5.2,<sup>132</sup> and taking into account the commitment to leave no one behind,

*Deeply concerned* about violence against women and girls in all its different forms and manifestations worldwide, which is underrecognized and underreported, particularly at the community level, and its pervasiveness, which reflects discriminatory norms that reinforce stereotypes and gender inequality and the corresponding impunity and lack of accountability, reiterating the need to intensify efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls in the public and private spheres in all regions of the world, and re-emphasizing that violence against women and girls violates, and impairs their full enjoyment of, all human rights,

*Recognizing* that violence against women and girls, including sexual harassment, is rooted in historical and structural inequality in power relations between men and women, seriously violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by women and girls and constitutes a major impediment to their full, equal and effective participation in society, as well as economic and political life,

*Bearing in mind* that sexual harassment in private and public spaces, including in educational institutions and the workplace, as well as in digital contexts, leads to a hostile environment, which has a further negative impact on

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<sup>120</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

<sup>121</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/73/53)*, chap. VI, sect. A.

<sup>122</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 7 (E/2017/27)*, chap. I, sect. A.

<sup>123</sup> *Ibid.*, sect. D.

<sup>124</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>125</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>126</sup> *Ibid.*, vols. 1577, 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex.

<sup>127</sup> Resolution 48/104.

<sup>128</sup> *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 I, annex I.

<sup>129</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>130</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution I, annex.

<sup>131</sup> Resolution 61/295, annex.

<sup>132</sup> See resolution 70/1.

women and girls in the enjoyment of their rights and equal opportunities, has negative physical and mental health consequences for the victims and may negatively affect their families,

*Recognizing* the particular risk of sexual harassment faced by women and girls who suffer multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination,

*Acknowledging* that sexual harassment may be committed against girls who are working in accordance with national legislation or under other circumstances, while condemning child labour in all its forms, and reaffirming Member States' obligations in accordance with international law to protect children, including from economic exploitation,

*Recognizing* that women and girls are frequently subjected to violence, including sexual harassment, at work and that women and girls face increased risks of violence, including sexual harassment, in particular contexts, such as when working alone, when working in male-dominated workplaces, when working outside the normal working hours or when working in the same place where they live, bearing in mind the large number of women and girls worldwide who have reported being victims of sexual harassment in their workplace, and concerned that, owing to underreporting, the actual number may be much greater,

*Stressing* the need to change social norms that condone violence against women and girls in the workplace, including through, but not limited to, training and awareness-raising campaigns conducted in the workplace, associated with a change in attitudes and increased knowledge about sexual harassment, particularly among men and boys,

*Deeply concerned* that school-related violence against girls, including sexual violence and harassment on the way to and from and at school, such as violence perpetrated by school staff, including teachers, and other pupils, continues to deter girls from accessing and pursuing an education and, in many cases, the transition to and completion of secondary education, and that these risks may influence the decision of parents to allow girls to attend school,

*Underscoring* that often lack of information and awareness, fear of reprisals, persisting impunity, insufficient recourse for violence against women and girls and negative social norms, including when leading to shame or stigma, as well as negative economic consequences, such as, inter alia, loss of livelihood or reduced income, prevent many women and, as applicable, girls from reporting or acting as witnesses and from seeking redress and justice in cases of sexual harassment,

*Deeply concerned* about all acts of violence, including sexual harassment, against women and girls involved in political and public life, including women in leadership positions, journalists and other media workers and human rights defenders,

*Recognizing* that the growing impact of violence against women and girls, including sexual harassment, in digital contexts, especially on social media, its impunity and the lack of preventive measures and remedies underline the need for action by Member States, in partnership with relevant stakeholders, and that such violence may include stalking, death threats and threats of sexual and gender-based violence, as well as related trends against women and girls in digital contexts, such as trolling, cyberbullying and other forms of cyberharassment, including unwanted verbal or non-verbal conduct of a sexual nature, with a view to discrediting women and girls and/or inciting other violations and abuses against them,

*Acknowledging* the importance of combating trafficking in persons in order to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, including sexual harassment, and in this regard stressing the importance of the full and effective implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>133</sup> as well as of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,<sup>134</sup>

*Emphasizing* that the lack or inadequacy of documentation, research and data, including disaggregated data, on sexual harassment against women and girls impedes efforts to design and implement measures, including, where appropriate, policies and legislation, to prevent and eliminate this form of violence,

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<sup>133</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

<sup>134</sup> Resolution [64/293](#).

*Stressing* that laws addressing violence against women and girls, including sexual harassment, are often of limited scope, that those addressing sexual harassment do not cover many workplaces, such as those of domestic workers, including migrant domestic workers, and that gaps need to be addressed,

*Stressing also* that, while the obligation and the primary responsibility to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms lie with the State, employers and education providers have the primary responsibility to take measures to prevent sexual harassment in the workplace and at educational institutions, respectively,

*Stressing further* that States, employers and education providers should take immediate, appropriate corrective action after sexual harassment has occurred by holding perpetrators to account and providing access to timely and appropriate remedies and protection for victims and witnesses, bearing in mind that victims of sexual harassment may be subjected to further discrimination or reprisals,

*Recognizing* the increase in public awareness and advocacy on sexual harassment, and stressing the need to accelerate government action to tackle sexual harassment,

*Highlighting* the crucial role that educational and awareness-raising programmes, policies and legislation play in preventing and eliminating sexual harassment against women and girls,

*Stressing* the need to fully engage men and boys as strategic partners and allies in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and in preventing and eliminating sexual harassment,

*Recognizing* the critical contribution of family members in combating violence against women and girls, including sexual harassment, by, inter alia, providing for a supportive environment for the empowerment of all women and girls, and that, in preventing such violence, the family can play an important role,

1. *Strongly condemns* all forms of violence against all women and girls, including sexual harassment, recognizing that it is an impediment to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and to the full realization of their human rights;

2. *Acknowledges* that sexual harassment is a form of violence and a violation and abuse of human rights that is likely to result in physical, psychological, sexual, economic or social harm or suffering;

3. *Stresses* that sexual harassment encompasses a continuum of unacceptable and unwelcome behaviours and practices of a sexual nature that may include, but are not limited to, sexual suggestions or demands, requests for sexual favours and sexual, verbal or physical conduct or gestures, that are or might reasonably be perceived as offensive or humiliating;

4. *Urges* States to condemn violence against women and girls, including sexual harassment, and reaffirms that they should not invoke any custom, tradition or religious consideration to avoid their obligations with respect to its elimination and should pursue, by all appropriate means and without delay, a policy of eliminating violence against women, as set out in the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women;<sup>127</sup>

5. *Calls upon* States to address discrimination based on multiple and intersecting factors, which places women and girls at greater risk of exploitation, violence and abuse, and to take appropriate action to empower and protect them as well as achieve their full enjoyment of human rights without discrimination;

6. *Notes* that efforts by civil society organizations in eliminating violence against women and girls are complementary to those of Governments, and in this regard urges States to support, where possible, non-State-led initiatives aimed at promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and at preventing, responding to and protecting women and girls from sexual harassment;

7. *Encourages* national legislative authorities and political parties, as appropriate, to adopt codes of conduct and reporting mechanisms, or revise existing ones, stating zero tolerance by these legislative authorities and political parties for sexual harassment, intimidation and any other form of violence against women in politics;

8. *Urges* States to take effective action to prevent and eliminate sexual harassment against women and girls and to address structural and underlying causes and risk factors, including by:

(a) Designing and implementing appropriate domestic policies that are aimed at transforming discriminatory social attitudes and social and cultural patterns of conduct that condone violence against women and girls, including sexual harassment, with a view to preventing and eliminating, in all public and private spheres, discrimination, gender

stereotypes, negative social norms, attitudes and behaviours, and unequal power relations by which women and girls are regarded as subordinate to men and boys and that underlie and perpetuate male domination;

(b) Implementing, in partnership with all relevant stakeholders, effective violence prevention and response activities in schools and communities, educating children from a young age regarding the importance of treating all people with dignity and respect, and designing educational programmes and teaching materials that support gender equality, respectful relationships and non-violent behaviour;

(c) Engaging men and boys in challenging gender stereotypes and negative social norms, attitudes and behaviours that underlie and perpetuate such violence and in developing and implementing measures that reinforce non-violent actions, attitudes and values, and encouraging men and boys, as agents and beneficiaries of change in the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, to take an active part and become their strategic partners and allies in efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls;

(d) Developing policies and programmes with the support, where appropriate, of international organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, giving priority to formal, informal and non-formal education programmes, including scientifically accurate and age-appropriate comprehensive education that is relevant to cultural contexts, that provides adolescent girls and boys and young women and men in and out of school, consistent with their evolving capacities, and with appropriate direction and guidance from parents and legal guardians, with the best interests of the child as their basic concern, information on sexual and reproductive health and HIV prevention, gender equality and women's empowerment, human rights, physical, psychological and pubertal development and power in relationships between women and men, to enable them to build self-esteem and foster informed decision-making, communication and risk-reduction skills and to develop respectful relationships, in full partnership with young persons, parents, legal guardians, caregivers, educators and health-care providers, in order to, inter alia, enable them to protect themselves from HIV infection and other risks;

(e) Developing, adopting, strengthening and implementing legislation and policies that address the issue of sexual harassment in a comprehensive manner by, inter alia, prohibiting and considering, where appropriate, criminalizing sexual harassment, exercising due diligence by taking protective and preventive measures, ensuring appropriate complaints mechanisms and reporting procedures, as well as accountability and access to effective, timely and appropriate remedies, including through adequate enforcement by the police and the judiciary of civil remedies, orders of protection and, where applicable, criminal sanctions in order to eliminate impunity and avoid revictimization;

(f) Accelerating efforts to develop, review and strengthen inclusive and gender-responsive policies, including by allocating adequate resources, to address the structural and underlying causes of sexual harassment against women and girls, to overcome gender stereotypes and negative social norms, to encourage the media to examine the impact of gender-role stereotypes, including those perpetuated by commercial advertisements, that foster gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and inequalities, to promote zero tolerance for such violence and to remove the stigma of being a victim and survivor of violence, thus creating an enabling and accessible environment where women and girls can easily report incidents of violence and make use of the services available, including protection and assistance programmes;

(g) Taking measures to ensure that all officials, including those in leadership positions, responsible for implementing policies and programmes aimed at preventing violence against women and girls, including sexual harassment, protecting and assisting the victims and investigating and punishing acts of violence receive ongoing, adequate and gender- and culturally sensitive training to be aware of gender-specific needs, as well as of the underlying causes and short- and long-term impact of sexual harassment;

(h) Removing barriers, including political, legal, cultural, social, economic, institutional and religious ones, preventing women's full, equal and effective participation in leadership and political and other decision-making positions, taking into account that promoting women to leadership positions may significantly reduce the risk of sexual harassment;

(i) Taking measures to ensure that all workplaces are free from discrimination and exploitation, violence, and sexual harassment and bullying and that they address discrimination and violence against women and girls, as appropriate, through such measures as regulatory and oversight frameworks and reforms, collective agreements, codes of conduct, including appropriate disciplinary measures, protocols and procedures, and referral of cases of

violence to health services for treatment and to police for investigation, as well as through awareness-raising and capacity-building, in collaboration with employers, unions and workers, including through workplace services and flexibility for victims and survivors;

(j) Taking measures to improve the safety of girls at and on the way to and from school, including by creating a safe and violence-free environment by improving infrastructure, such as transportation, providing hygienic, separate and adequate sanitation facilities, improved lighting, playgrounds and safe environments and adopting policies to prevent, address and prohibit sexual harassment through all appropriate measures;

9. *Also urges* States to take effective action to protect victims of all forms of violence, including sexual harassment, including by:

(a) Providing relevant, comprehensive and victim-centred legal protection to support and assist victims of violence, including sexual harassment, in a gender-sensitive manner, including victim and witness protection from reprisals for bringing complaints or giving evidence, within the framework of their national legal systems, including, as appropriate, legislative or other measures throughout the criminal and civil justice system, as appropriate, paying particular attention to women and girls facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination;

(b) Establishing comprehensive, coordinated, interdisciplinary, accessible and sustained multisectoral services, programmes and responses for all victims and survivors of all forms of violence, including sexual harassment, that are adequately resourced, that are, when possible, in a language that they understand and in which they can communicate and that include effective and coordinated action by, as appropriate, relevant stakeholders, such as the police and the justice sector, as well as providers of legal aid services, health services, shelters, medical and psychological assistance, counselling services and protection, and, in cases of girl victims, ensuring that such services, programmes and responses take into account the best interests of the child;

(c) Establishing and/or strengthening law enforcement, health and social workers' and counsellors' response protocols and procedures to ensure that all appropriate actions are taken to protect and respond to the needs of victims of violence, including sexual harassment, to identify acts of violence and to prevent their recurrence or further acts of violence and physical and psychological harm, ensuring that services are responsive to the survivors' needs, including by providing access to female health-care providers, police officers and counsellors if requested, and ensuring and maintaining the privacy of victims and the confidentiality of their reporting;

10. *Encourages* States, in efforts to prevent and eliminate sexual harassment, to work in partnership with the private sector and civil society, including women's and community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, feminist groups, women human rights defenders, girls' and youth-led organizations and trade, labour and other professional unions, as well as other relevant stakeholders;

11. *Urges* States to ensure the promotion and protection of the human rights of all women and their sexual and reproductive health, and reproductive rights in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,<sup>130</sup> the Beijing Platform for Action<sup>129</sup> and the outcome documents of their review conferences, including through the development and enforcement of policies and legal frameworks and the strengthening of health systems that make universally accessible and available quality, comprehensive sexual and reproductive health-care services, commodities, information and education, including safe and effective methods of modern contraception, emergency contraception, prevention programmes for adolescent pregnancy, maternal health care such as skilled birth attendance and emergency obstetric care, which will reduce obstetric fistula and other complications of pregnancy and delivery, safe abortion where such services are permitted by national law, and prevention and treatment of reproductive tract infections, sexually transmitted infections, HIV and reproductive cancers, recognizing that human rights include the right to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health, free from coercion, discrimination and violence;

12. *Calls upon* States to take necessary measures to ensure that employers in all sectors are held accountable when they fail to abide by laws and regulations addressing sexual harassment, where they exist;

13. *Also calls upon* States to prevent, address and prohibit violence, including sexual harassment, against women and girls in public and political life, including women in leadership positions, journalists and other media workers and human rights defenders, including through practical steps to prevent threats, harassment and violence,

and to combat impunity by ensuring that those responsible for violations and abuses, including sexual and gender-based violence and threats, including in digital contexts, are promptly brought to justice and held accountable through impartial investigations;

14. *Further calls upon* States to encourage digital technology companies, including Internet service providers and digital platforms, to strengthen or adopt positive measures with a view to eliminating violence and sexual harassment, including sexual harassment in digital contexts;

15. *Encourages* States to systematically collect, analyse and disseminate data disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant parameters, including, where appropriate, administrative data from the police, the health sector, the judiciary and other relevant sectors, to consider developing methodologies to collect data on all forms of violence against women and girls, including sexual harassment, in, inter alia, digital contexts, in order to monitor all forms of such violence, such as data on the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim and geographical location, with the involvement of national statistical offices and, where appropriate, in partnership with other actors, including law enforcement agencies, in order to effectively review and implement laws, policies, strategies and preventive and protective measures, while ensuring and maintaining the privacy and the confidentiality of the victims;

16. *Urges* the international community to fulfil its commitment to supporting developing countries, particularly African countries, the least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in strengthening the capacity of national statistical offices and data systems to ensure access to high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data, while ensuring national ownership in supporting and tracking progress on, inter alia, efforts to address violence against women and girls, including sexual harassment;

17. *Also urges* the international community, including the United Nations system and, as appropriate, regional and subregional organizations, to support national efforts to promote the empowerment of women and girls and gender equality in order to enhance international efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls, through, inter alia, official development assistance and other appropriate assistance, such as facilitating the sharing of guidelines, methodologies and best practices, taking into account national priorities;

18. *Calls upon* States to promote the full and effective participation of women and, as appropriate, girls in the development, implementation and monitoring of policies, programmes and other initiatives aimed at preventing and responding to violence against women and girls, including sexual harassment;

19. *Stresses* the need to take necessary measures to ensure that no individual working within the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds, programmes and entities, should be involved in sexual harassment, too often perpetrated against those affected by humanitarian crises, and recognizes the efforts of the United Nations system in this regard;

20. *Encourages* humanitarian assistance agencies and non-governmental organizations to adopt and implement policies to prevent, address and prohibit sexual harassment within their organizations;

21. *Stresses* that, within the United Nations system, adequate resources should be assigned to the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and other bodies, specialized agencies, funds and programmes responsible for the promotion of gender equality, the empowerment of women and the human rights of women and girls and to efforts throughout the United Nations system to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls, including sexual harassment, and calls upon the United Nations system to make the necessary support and resources available;

22. *Also stresses* the importance of the Secretary-General's Global Database on Violence against Women, expresses its appreciation to all those States that have provided the Database with information regarding, inter alia, their national policies and legal frameworks aimed at eliminating violence against women and girls and supporting victims of such violence, strongly encourages all States to regularly provide updated information for the Database, and calls upon all relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue to support States, at their request, in the compilation and regular updating of pertinent information and to raise awareness of the Database among all relevant stakeholders, including civil society;

23. *Calls upon* all United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies and invites the Bretton Woods institutions to intensify their efforts at all levels to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls and to better coordinate their work, with a view to increasing effective support for national efforts to prevent and eliminate sexual harassment;



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24. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on violence against women, its causes and consequences to present an annual report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth and seventy-fifth sessions;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report containing:

(a) Information provided by the United Nations bodies, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies on their follow-up activities to implement resolution 71/170 and the present resolution, including on their assistance to States in their efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls;

(b) Information provided by States on their follow-up activities to implement the present resolution;

26. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to present an oral report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its sixty-third and sixty-fourth sessions, including information provided by the United Nations bodies, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies on recent follow-up activities to implement resolutions 69/147 and 71/170 and the present resolution, and urges United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to contribute promptly to that report;

27. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls at its seventy-fifth session under the item entitled “Advancement of women”.

### RESOLUTION 73/149

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/582, para. 37)<sup>135</sup>

#### 73/149. Intensifying global efforts for the elimination of female genital mutilation

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/117 of 9 December 1998, 56/128 of 19 December 2001, 67/146 of 20 December 2012, 68/146 of 18 December 2013, 69/150 of 18 December 2014 and 71/168 of 19 December 2016, Commission on the Status of Women resolutions 51/2 of 9 March 2007,<sup>136</sup> 52/2 of 7 March 2008<sup>137</sup> and 54/7 of 12 March 2010<sup>138</sup> and Human Rights Council resolutions 27/22 of 26 September 2014,<sup>139</sup> 32/21 of 1 July 2016<sup>140</sup> and 38/6 of 2 July 2018<sup>141</sup> and all relevant agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women,

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>142</sup> and noting that 2018 marks its seventieth anniversary,

<sup>135</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

<sup>136</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 7 (E/2007/27)*, chap. I, sect. D.

<sup>137</sup> *Ibid.*, 2008, *Supplement No. 7 (E/2008/27)*, chap. I, sect. D.

<sup>138</sup> *Ibid.*, 2010, *Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2010/27 and E/2010/27/Corr.1), chap. I, sect. D.

<sup>139</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1, A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.1 and A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.2), chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>140</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/71/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>141</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/73/53)*, chap. VI, sect. A.

<sup>142</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

*Reaffirming* also that the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>143</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women<sup>144</sup> and all relevant conventions, together with the optional protocols thereto, as appropriate, constitute an important contribution to the legal framework for the protection and promotion of the human rights of women and girls,

*Reaffirming further* the Beijing Declaration<sup>145</sup> and Platform for Action,<sup>146</sup> the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”,<sup>147</sup> the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development<sup>148</sup> and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development<sup>149</sup> and their 5-, 10-, 15- and 20-year reviews, as well as the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>150</sup> and the commitments relevant to women and girls made at the 2005 World Summit<sup>151</sup> and reiterated in Assembly resolution 65/1 of 22 September 2010, entitled “Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals”, and those made in the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,<sup>152</sup>

*Recognizing* the role of regional and subregional instruments and mechanisms in the prevention and elimination of female genital mutilation, where they exist,

*Recalling* Agenda 2063 of the African Union and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, adopted in Maputo on 11 July 2003, which contains, inter alia, undertakings and commitments on ending female genital mutilation and marks a significant milestone towards the elimination and ending of female genital mutilation,

*Recalling also* the decision of the African Union, adopted in Malabo on 1 July 2011, to support the adoption by the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session of a resolution banning female genital mutilation,

*Recognizing* that female genital mutilation constitutes irreparable, irreversible harm and an act of violence against women and girls that impairs and undermines the enjoyment of their human rights, and recognizing also that it affects many women and girls who are at risk of being subjected to the practice throughout the world, which is an impediment to the full achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls,

*Reaffirming* that female genital mutilation is a harmful practice constituting a serious threat to the health of women and girls, including their physical, mental, sexual and reproductive health, that it has no documented health benefits, that it may give rise to possible adverse obstetric and prenatal outcomes and may increase vulnerability to hepatitis C, tetanus, sepsis, urine retention and ulceration, as well as to fatal consequences for the mother and child, and that the elimination of this harmful practice can be achieved as a result of a comprehensive movement that involves all public and private stakeholders in society, including women and men, girls and boys, families, communities, religious leaders and local community and traditional leaders,

*Recognizing* that female genital mutilation is inherently linked to deep-rooted harmful stereotypes, negative social norms, perceptions and customs on the part of both women and men that threaten the physical and psychological integrity of women and girls, and that are obstacles to their full enjoyment of human rights, and acknowledging in this regard that awareness-raising is critical,

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<sup>143</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>144</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>145</sup> *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, annex I.

<sup>146</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>147</sup> Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

<sup>148</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>149</sup> *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

<sup>150</sup> Resolution 55/2.

<sup>151</sup> See resolution 60/1.

<sup>152</sup> Resolution 70/1.

*Welcoming* the increased national, regional and international efforts and the political commitment at the highest levels, which are critical to successfully eradicating female genital mutilation,

*Deeply concerned* that the practice of female genital mutilation persists in all parts of the world and that new methods, such as its medicalization and cross-border practice, are emerging,

*Recognizing* that negative discriminatory and stereotypical attitudes and behaviours, on the part of both women and men, have direct implications for the status and treatment of women and girls, and that such negative stereotypes impede the implementation of legislative and normative frameworks that guarantee gender equality and prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex,

*Stressing* that men and boys play an important role in the acceleration of progress in preventing and eliminating harmful practices such as female genital mutilation by being agents of change,

*Recognizing* that the campaign of the Secretary-General entitled “UNiTE to End Violence against Women” and the Global Database on Violence against Women have contributed to addressing the elimination of female genital mutilation,

*Welcoming* the efforts of the United Nations system to end female genital mutilation, in particular the commitment of 10 United Nations entities,<sup>153</sup> announced in their joint inter-agency statement of 27 February 2008 on eliminating female genital mutilation, as well as the Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: Accelerating Change of the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children’s Fund, to accelerate the elimination of the practice,

*Commending* the continued efforts and actions undertaken by States, individually and collectively, regional organizations and United Nations agencies for the elimination of female genital mutilation, as well as the implementation of its resolution [71/168](#),

*Underscoring* the importance of eliminating female genital mutilation as a contribution to the implementation of the range of Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular target 5.3,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>154</sup>

*Deeply concerned* that a tremendous gap in resources continues to exist and that the shortfall in funding has severely limited the scope and pace of programmes and activities for the elimination of female genital mutilation,

1. *Stresses* that the empowerment of women and girls is key to breaking the cycle of discrimination and violence and for the promotion and protection of human rights, including the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of mental and physical health, including sexual and reproductive health, and calls upon States parties to fulfil their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>143</sup> and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>144</sup> as well as their commitments to implement the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,<sup>155</sup> the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,<sup>148</sup> the Beijing Platform for Action<sup>146</sup> and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”,<sup>147</sup> and of the special session of the General Assembly on children;<sup>156</sup>

2. *Calls upon* States to place a stronger focus on the development and implementation of comprehensive prevention strategies, including the intensification of educational campaigns, awareness-raising and formal and non-formal education and training in order to promote the direct engagement of girls and boys, women and men and to ensure that all key actors, including government officials, law enforcement and judicial personnel, immigration officials, parliamentarians, health-care providers, practitioners, civil society, the private sector, community and

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<sup>153</sup> Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, United Nations Development Programme, Economic Commission for Africa, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Population Fund, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Children’s Fund, United Nations Development Fund for Women and World Health Organization.

<sup>154</sup> [A/73/266](#).

<sup>155</sup> Resolution [48/104](#).

<sup>156</sup> Resolution [S-27/2](#), annex.

religious leaders, teachers, employers, media professionals and those directly working with girls, as well as parents, legal guardians, families and communities, work to eliminate attitudes and harmful practices, in particular female genital mutilation, that negatively affect women and girls, and emphasizes the importance of adopting a non-stigmatization approach in all prevention interventions;

3. *Also calls upon* States to develop information and awareness-raising campaigns and programmes to systematically reach and engage the general public, especially relevant professionals, in particular schoolteachers, families, communities, civil society representatives, including women's and girl-led organizations and religious and traditional leaders, including through the traditional and non-traditional media, featuring television and radio discussions and information and communications technology, about the harmful effects of female genital mutilation and the fact that this practice still exists and about national and international levels of support for the elimination of female genital mutilation, with a view to helping to change existing negative social norms, attitudes and behaviours that condone and justify gender inequality, all forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices, including female genital mutilation;

4. *Further calls upon* States to provide the necessary resources to strengthen advocacy and awareness-raising programmes, to mobilize girls and women and boys and men to take an active part in developing preventive and elimination programmes to address harmful practices, especially female genital mutilation, to engage families, local community and religious leaders, educational institutions, the media and civil society and to provide increased financial support to efforts at all levels to end discriminatory social norms and practices, and calls upon the international community to support States in these efforts;

5. *Urges* States to complement punitive measures with awareness-raising and educational activities designed to promote a process of consensus towards the elimination of female genital mutilation, and further urges States to protect and support women and girls who have been subjected to female genital mutilation and those who are at risk in order to assist them, including by developing social, legal and psychological support services and care and appropriate remedies, and to ensure access to health-care services, including for sexual and reproductive health, in order to improve their health and well-being;

6. *Also urges* States to condemn all harmful practices that affect women and girls, in particular female genital mutilation, whether committed within or outside a medical institution, to take all necessary measures, including through educational campaigns and by enacting and enforcing legislation to prohibit female genital mutilation, to protect women and girls from this act of violence, to hold perpetrators to account and to put in place adequate accountability mechanisms at the national and local levels, where applicable, in order to monitor progress;

7. *Calls upon* States to address the medicalization of female genital mutilation and to encourage professional associations and trade unions of health service providers to adopt internal disciplinary rules prohibiting their members from engaging in the harmful practice of female genital mutilation;

8. *Urges* States to promote gender-sensitive, empowering educational processes, sensitive to the needs of women and girls, by reviewing and revising, as appropriate, school curricula, educational materials and teacher-training programmes and elaborating policies and programmes of zero tolerance of violence against girls or of harmful practices, including female genital mutilation, placing special emphasis on education about the harmful effects of female genital mutilation, and to further integrate a comprehensive understanding of the causes and consequences of gender-based violence and discrimination against women and girls into education and training curricula at all levels;

9. *Also urges* States to ensure that the protection of and provision of support to women and girls subject to, or at risk of, female genital mutilation are an integral part of policies and programmes that address the practice, and to provide women and girls with coordinated, specialized, accessible and quality multisectoral prevention and response, including education, as well as legal, psychological, health-care and social services, provided by qualified personnel, consistent with the guidelines of medical ethics;

10. *Calls upon* States to ensure that national action plans and strategies on the elimination of female genital mutilation are comprehensive and multidisciplinary in scope and that they include projected timelines for goals and incorporate clear targets and indicators for the effective monitoring, impact assessment and coordination of programmes among all relevant stakeholders and promote their participation, including the participation of affected women and girls, practising communities and non-governmental organizations, in the development, implementation and evaluation of such plans and strategies;

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11. *Urges* States to take, within the general framework of integration policies and in consultation with affected communities, effective and specific targeted measures for refugee and migrant women and girls, their families and their communities in order to protect women and girls everywhere from female genital mutilation, including when the practice occurs outside the country of residence;

12. *Also urges* States to pursue a comprehensive, culturally sensitive, systematic approach that incorporates a social perspective and is based on human rights and gender equality in providing education and training to families, local community leaders and members of all professions relevant to the protection and empowerment of women and girls in order to increase awareness of and commitment to the elimination of female genital mutilation;

13. *Further urges* States to identify and allocate sufficient resources to the implementation of policies and programmes and legislative frameworks aimed at eliminating female genital mutilation, in particular measures involving information and communications technologies to facilitate learning and knowledge-sharing;

14. *Calls upon* States to develop, support and implement comprehensive and integrated strategies for the prevention of female genital mutilation, including the training of social workers, medical personnel, community and religious leaders and relevant professionals, and to ensure that they provide competent, supportive services and care to all women and girls who are at risk of or who have undergone female genital mutilation and encourage them to report to the appropriate authorities cases in which they believe that women or girls are at risk;

15. *Also calls upon* States to support, as part of a comprehensive approach to eliminate female genital mutilation, programmes that engage local community practitioners of female genital mutilation in community-based initiatives for the elimination of the practice, including, where relevant, the identification and the provision by communities of alternative livelihoods for them;

16. *Calls upon* the international community, the relevant United Nations entities and civil society and international financial institutions to continue to actively support, through the allocation of increased financial resources and technical assistance, targeted comprehensive programmes that address the needs and priorities of women and girls at risk of or subjected to female genital mutilation;

17. *Calls upon* the international community to strongly support, including through increased financial support, a third phase of the Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: Accelerating Change of the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children's Fund, which will run until 2020, as well as national programmes focused on the elimination of female genital mutilation;

18. *Stresses* that progress has been made in eliminating female genital mutilation in a number of countries using a common coordinated approach that promotes positive social change at the community, national, regional and international levels, and recalls the goal set out in the United Nations inter-agency statement that female genital mutilation is to be eliminated within a generation, with some of the main achievements being obtained by 2030, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals;

19. *Encourages* men and boys to take an active part and to become strategic partners of women and girls and their allies in efforts, including through intergenerational dialogue, to eliminate violence, discrimination and harmful practices against women and girls, in particular female genital mutilation, through networks, peer programmes, information campaigns and training programmes;

20. *Calls upon* States to engage key stakeholders, in a coordinated manner, including various sectors of government and civil society organizations, along with the support, upon request, of United Nations entities, in developing a multidisciplinary approach to both preventing and responding to female genital mutilation and to adopt laws and policies, where appropriate, providing high-quality, multisectoral interventions for girls and women who have been subject to female genital mutilation, as well as robust prevention strategies, taking into consideration those girls and women who are most vulnerable;

21. *Calls upon* States, the United Nations system, civil society and all stakeholders to continue to observe 6 February as the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation and to use the day to enhance awareness-raising campaigns and to take concrete actions against female genital mutilation;

22. *Calls upon* States to improve the collection and analysis of quantitative and qualitative disaggregated data, where appropriate, and to collaborate with existing data collection systems, which are crucial for evidence-based legal and policy development, programme design and implementation and the monitoring of the elimination of female genital mutilation;

23. *Also calls upon* States to develop unified methods and standards for the collection of data on female genital mutilation, which is underdocumented and underreported, to develop additional indicators to effectively measure progress in eliminating this practice and to reinforce the sharing of good practices relating to the prevention and elimination of female genital mutilation at the subregional, regional and global levels;

24. *Urges* the international community to fulfil its commitment in supporting developing countries in strengthening the capacity of national statistical offices and data systems to ensure access to high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data, while ensuring national ownership in supporting and tracking progress, in order, inter alia, to inform policy and programming, as well as to monitor progress in the elimination of female genital mutilation;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the World Health Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, individually and collectively, take into account the protection and promotion of the rights of women and girls against female genital mutilation in their country programmes, as appropriate and in accordance with national priorities, in order to further strengthen their efforts in this regard;

26. *Renews its request* to the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-fifth session, an in-depth, multidisciplinary, evidence-based report, with accurate and updated data, an analysis of root causes, progress made to date, challenges and needs and action-oriented recommendations for eliminating this practice, on the basis of updated information provided by Member States, relevant actors of the United Nations system working on the issue and other relevant stakeholders.

#### RESOLUTION 73/150

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/583, para. 16)<sup>157</sup>

#### 73/150. Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969<sup>158</sup> and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,<sup>159</sup>

*Reaffirming* that the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,<sup>160</sup> together with the 1967 Protocol thereto,<sup>161</sup> as complemented by the Organization of African Unity Convention of 1969, remains the foundation of the international refugee protection regime in Africa,

*Welcoming* the entry into force on 6 December 2012 and the ongoing process of ratification of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, which mark a significant step towards strengthening the national and regional normative frameworks for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons,

*Welcoming also* the decision of the African Union to declare 2019 as the African Year of Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons: Towards Durable Solutions to Forced Displacement in Africa, in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee

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<sup>157</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Canada, Finland, Georgia, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mozambique (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Norway, Poland, Spain and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

<sup>158</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1001, No. 14691.

<sup>159</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1520, No. 26363.

<sup>160</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

<sup>161</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 606, No. 8791.



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problems in Africa of 1969 and the tenth anniversary of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention) of 2009,

*Recognizing* the particular vulnerability of women and children, as well as older persons and persons with disabilities, among refugees and displaced persons, including exposure to discrimination, sexual exploitation and abuse, physical abuse, violence and exploitation and the recruitment and use of children by parties to armed conflict in violation of applicable international law, and in this regard acknowledging the importance of preventing, responding to and addressing sexual and gender-based violence as well as violations and abuses committed against refugee, returnee and displaced children,

*Gravely concerned* about the continued rising number of refugees and displaced persons in various parts of the continent,

*Acknowledging* the efforts of Member States, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other stakeholders in improving the situation of refugees and their host communities,

*Expressing grave concern* about funding gaps in the budgets of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the World Food Programme, which are among the most underfunded, in responding to various refugee situations in different parts of Africa, which are a major factor leading to the deterioration in living conditions in many refugee camps in Africa,

*Emphasizing* the need to develop a holistic approach in addressing large movements of population that takes into account the underlying causes of displacement,

*Recognizing* that refugees, internally displaced persons and, in particular, women and children are at an increased risk of exposure to HIV and AIDS, malaria and other diseases,

*Recalling* the high-level segment on the theme “Enhancing international cooperation, solidarity, local capacities and humanitarian action for refugees in Africa” of the sixty-fifth session of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, held in Geneva from 29 September to 3 October 2014, and the statement adopted on 30 September 2014 by States members of the Executive Committee,<sup>162</sup> and expressing deep concern that this particular event has not mobilized the necessary support for refugees and their hosting countries and communities,

*Welcoming* the special summit on protection and durable solutions for Somali refugees and reintegration of returnees in Somalia, held in Nairobi on 25 March 2017, at which the Nairobi Declaration on Durable Solutions for Somali Refugees and the Reintegration of Returnees in Somalia was adopted, the nomination of the Special Envoy of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the Somali refugee situation, the London Conference, held on 11 May 2017, and the Uganda Solidarity Summit on Refugees, held on 22 and 23 June 2017, and encouraging those who participated to implement the commitments made therein,

*Recalling* the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region, adopted by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region in 2006, and its instruments, in particular two of the protocols to the Pact that are relevant to the protection of displaced persons, namely, the Protocol on the Protection of and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons and the Protocol on the Property Rights of Returning Persons,

*Acknowledging with appreciation* the generosity, hospitality and spirit of solidarity of African States, including host communities, that, despite their limited resources, continue to host a large number of refugees, owing to humanitarian crises and protracted refugee situations, in this regard expressing particular appreciation for the commitment and efforts of neighbouring countries in the recent humanitarian crises on the continent, welcoming efforts by African States that endeavour to facilitate the voluntary repatriation, local integration, resettlement and rehabilitation of refugees and to promote conditions conducive to the voluntary return and sustainable reintegration of refugees in their country of origin, also acknowledging with appreciation the coordination of humanitarian assistance by the United Nations as well as the continuing efforts of donors, the United Nations system, including the Office of the High Commissioner, regional organizations, international agencies, non-governmental organizations and other partners, with regard to durable solutions for addressing the plight of refugees during emergencies, and recalling that those solutions include voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and

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<sup>162</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 12A (A/69/12/Add.1)*, annex I.

resettlement in a third country, while reaffirming that voluntary repatriation, supported, as necessary, by rehabilitation and development assistance to facilitate sustainable reintegration, remains the preferred solution,

*Recognizing* that host States have the primary responsibility for the protection of and assistance to refugees on their territory and need to redouble efforts to develop and implement comprehensive durable solution strategies, in appropriate cooperation with the international community, and burden- and responsibility-sharing, and recognizing also the efforts of all States in this regard,

*Emphasizing* that States have the primary responsibility to provide protection and assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction, as well as to address the root causes of the displacement problem, in appropriate cooperation with the international community,

*Recognizing* the need to expand resettlement opportunities,

*Recognizing also* the need to encourage increased efforts towards voluntary return and local integration,

*Welcoming* the ongoing implementation of pledges made by States at the intergovernmental ministerial event held in 2011 to mark the sixtieth anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the fiftieth anniversary of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness,<sup>163</sup>

*Reaffirming* 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,<sup>164</sup> 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 challenges of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

*Taking note* of the World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016, while recognizing that it did not have an intergovernmentally agreed outcome, and welcoming the commitment of the African Heads of State and Government, adopted by the African Union, on the theme “One Africa, One Voice, One Message at the World Humanitarian Summit”,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General<sup>165</sup> and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;<sup>166</sup>

2. *Calls upon* African States that have not yet signed or ratified the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa to consider doing so as early as possible in order to ensure its wider implementation;

3. *Encourages* African States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the international community to mark the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa and the tenth anniversary of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention);

4. *Notes* the need for African States, with the support and collaboration of the international community, to resolutely address the root causes of all forms of forced displacement in Africa and to foster peace, stability and prosperity throughout the African continent so as to forestall flows of refugees;

5. *Welcomes* the central role played by the Heads of State and Government of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development towards the successful negotiations in Khartoum and the eventual signing of the final Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan between the Government and the opposition movements during the thirty-third extraordinary summit, held in Addis Ababa on 12 September 2018, and encourages the parties to fully implement this agreement in order to achieve a sustainable and lasting peace and reduce the flow of refugees in Africa;

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<sup>163</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 989, No. 14458.

<sup>164</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>165</sup> A/73/340.

<sup>166</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/73/12 (Part I) and A/73/12 (Part II))*.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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6. *Commends* the continued efforts and commitment by the regional Governments towards resolving conflicts in the region, including the ongoing mediation by the Sudan between the parties to the conflict in the Central African Republic under the umbrella of the African Initiative for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic;

7. *Welcomes* the outcome of the Lake Chad Basin Governors' Forum on stabilization and recovery in the Lake Chad region, held in Maiduguri, Nigeria, in May 2018, aimed at integrating durable local solutions to the challenges in the Lake Chad region, and the High-level Conference on the Lake Chad Region, co-hosted by Germany, Nigeria, Norway and the United Nations in Berlin in September 2018, and calls upon affected countries, donors and partners to fulfil their pledges aimed at facilitating crisis prevention, rehabilitation, recovery, resilience and peacebuilding, as well as enhancing the humanitarian development nexus in the north-east of Nigeria and the Lake Chad region;

8. *Notes with great concern* that, despite all the efforts made so far by the United Nations, the African Union and others, the situation of refugees and displaced persons in Africa remains precarious and the number of refugees and internally displaced persons has dramatically increased, and calls upon States and other parties to armed conflict to observe scrupulously the letter and spirit of, and respect and ensure respect for, international humanitarian law, bearing in mind that armed conflict is one of the principal causes of forced displacement in Africa;

9. *Welcomes* decisions EX.CL/Dec.854 (XXVI), EX.CL/Dec.877 (XXVII) and EX.CL/899 (XXVIII) and EX.CL/Dec.968 (XXXI) adopted by the Executive Council of the African Union at its twenty-sixth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa from 23 to 27 January 2015, its twenty-seventh ordinary session, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 7 to 12 June 2015, its twenty-eighth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa from 23 to 28 January 2016 and its thirty-first ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa from 27 June to 1 July 2017, on the humanitarian situation in Africa, insofar as they relate to persons of concern to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* for the leadership shown by the Office of the High Commissioner, and commends the Office for its ongoing efforts, with the support of the international community, to assist African States hosting large numbers of refugees, including by providing support to vulnerable local host communities, and to respond to the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the initiatives taken by the African Union, the Subcommittee on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons of its Permanent Representatives Committee and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, in particular the role of its Special Rapporteur on Refugees, Asylum Seekers, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, to ensure the protection of and assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

12. *Underlines* the need to provide an efficient humanitarian response to internally displaced persons, and recognizes in this regard the importance of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa;

13. *Acknowledges* the important contribution of age, gender and diversity mainstreaming in identifying, through the full participation of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities, the protection risks faced by the different members of the refugee communities, in particular the non-discriminatory treatment and protection of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities;

14. *Affirms* that children, because of their age, social status and physical and mental development, are often more vulnerable than adults in situations of forced displacement, recognizes that forced displacement, return to post-conflict situations, integration into new societies, protracted situations of displacement and statelessness can increase child protection risks, taking into account the particular vulnerability of displaced children to forcible exposure to the risks of physical and psychological injury, exploitation and death in connection with armed conflict, as well as the recruitment and use of children by parties to armed conflict in violation of applicable international law, and acknowledges that wider environmental factors and individual risk factors, particularly when combined, may generate different protection needs;

15. *Recognizes* that no solution to forced displacement can be durable unless it is sustainable, and therefore encourages the Office of the High Commissioner to support the sustainability of durable solutions, and recalls that

those solutions include voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and resettlement in a third country, while reaffirming that voluntary repatriation, supported, as necessary, by rehabilitation and development assistance to facilitate sustainable reintegration, remains the preferred solution;

16. *Reaffirms* the conclusion on civil registration adopted by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at its sixty-fourth session, held in Geneva from 30 September to 4 October 2013,<sup>167</sup> and recognizes the importance of early registration and effective registration systems and censuses as a tool of protection and as a means to the quantification and assessment of needs for the provision and distribution of humanitarian assistance and to implement appropriate durable solutions;

17. *Also reaffirms* the conclusion on registration of refugees and asylum seekers adopted by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner at its fifty-second session,<sup>168</sup> notes the many forms of harassment faced by refugees and asylum seekers who remain without any form of documentation attesting to their status, recalls the responsibility of States to register refugees on their territories and, as appropriate, the responsibility of the Office of the High Commissioner or mandated international bodies to do so, reiterates in this context the central role that early and effective registration and documentation can play, guided by protection considerations, in enhancing protection and supporting efforts to find durable solutions, and calls upon the Office, as appropriate, to help States to conduct this procedure should they be unable to register refugees on their territory;

18. *Welcomes* the adoption of the conclusion on machine-readable travel documents for refugees and stateless persons by the Executive Committee at its sixty-eighth session;<sup>169</sup>

19. *Calls upon* the international community, including States and the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant United Nations organizations, within their respective mandates, to take concrete action to meet the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons and to contribute generously to projects and programmes aimed at alleviating their plight, facilitating durable solutions and supporting vulnerable local host communities;

20. *Acknowledges* the efforts made by the African countries applying the comprehensive refugee response framework, and underscores the importance for the international community of ensuring appropriate and timely support;

21. *Reaffirms* the importance of timely and adequate assistance and protection for refugees, returnees and displaced persons, also reaffirms that assistance and protection are mutually reinforcing and that inadequate material assistance and food shortages undermine protection, notes the importance of a rights- and community-based approach in engaging constructively with individual refugees, returnees and displaced persons and their communities so as to achieve fair and equitable access to food and other forms of material assistance, and expresses concern with regard to situations in which minimum standards of assistance are not met, including those in which adequate needs assessments have yet to be undertaken;

22. *Also reaffirms* that respect by States for their protection responsibilities towards refugees is strengthened by international solidarity involving all members of the international community and that the refugee protection regime is enhanced through committed international cooperation in a spirit of solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing among all States;

23. *Further reaffirms* that host States have the primary responsibility to ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum, calls upon States, in cooperation with international organizations, within their mandates, to take all measures necessary to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection and, in particular, to ensure that the civilian and humanitarian nature of refugee camps is not compromised by the presence or the activities of armed elements or used for purposes that are incompatible with their civilian character, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue efforts, in consultation with States and other relevant actors, to ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of camps;

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<sup>167</sup> Ibid., *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 12A (A/68/12/Add.1)*, chap. III, sect. A.

<sup>168</sup> Ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 12A (A/56/12/Add.1)*, chap. III, sect. B.

<sup>169</sup> Ibid., *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 12A (A/72/12/Add.1)*, chap. III, sect. A.

24. *Condemns* all acts that pose a threat to the personal security and well-being of refugees and asylum seekers, such as refoulement, unlawful expulsion and physical attacks, calls upon States of refuge, in cooperation with international organizations, where appropriate, to take all measures necessary to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection, including the humane treatment of asylum seekers, notes with interest that the High Commissioner has continued to take steps to encourage the development of measures to better ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue those efforts, in consultation with States and other relevant actors;

25. *Deplores* the continuing violence and insecurity, which constitute an ongoing threat to the safety and security of staff members of the Office of the High Commissioner and other humanitarian organizations and an obstacle to the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Office and the ability of its implementing partners and other humanitarian personnel to discharge their respective humanitarian functions, urges States, parties to conflict and all other relevant actors to take all measures necessary to protect activities related to humanitarian assistance, prevent attacks on and kidnapping of national and international humanitarian workers and ensure the safety and security of the personnel and property of the Office and that of all humanitarian organizations discharging functions mandated by the Office, and calls upon States to investigate fully any crime committed against humanitarian personnel and bring to justice the persons responsible for such crimes;

26. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the African Union, subregional organizations and all African States, in conjunction with agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international community, to strengthen and revitalize existing partnerships and forge new ones in support of the protection system for refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons, and encourages African States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying and enforcing the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;<sup>170</sup>

27. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the international community, donors and other entities concerned to continue and, where appropriate, to intensify their support to African Governments through appropriate capacity-building activities, including training of relevant officers, disseminating information about refugee instruments and principles, providing financial, technical, legal and advisory services to accelerate the enactment or amendment and implementation of legislation relating to refugees, strengthening emergency response and enhancing capacities for the coordination of humanitarian activities, in particular to those Governments that have received large numbers of refugees and asylum seekers;

28. *Reaffirms* the right of return, in accordance with international law, and the principle of voluntary repatriation, appeals to countries of origin and countries of asylum to create conditions that are conducive to voluntary repatriation, and recognizes that, while voluntary repatriation remains the pre-eminent solution, local integration and third-country resettlement, where appropriate and feasible, are also viable options for dealing with the situation of African refugees who, owing to prevailing circumstances in their respective countries of origin, are unable to return home;

29. *Also reaffirms* that voluntary repatriation should not necessarily be conditioned on the accomplishment of political solutions in the country of origin in order not to impede the exercise of the refugees' right to return, recognizes that the voluntary repatriation and reintegration process is normally guided by the conditions in the country of origin, in particular that voluntary repatriation can be accomplished in conditions of safety and dignity, and urges the High Commissioner to promote sustainable return through the development of durable and lasting solutions, particularly in protracted refugee situations;

30. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide financial and material assistance that allows for the implementation of community-based development programmes that benefit both refugees and host communities, as appropriate, in agreement with host countries and consistent with humanitarian objectives;

31. *Appeals* to the international community to respond positively, in the spirit of solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing, to the third-country resettlement needs of African refugees, notes in this regard the importance of using resettlement strategically, as part of situation-specific comprehensive responses to refugee situations, and to this end encourages States, the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant partners to make full use of the Multilateral Framework of Understandings on Resettlement, where appropriate and feasible;

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<sup>170</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2051, No. 35457.

32. *Expresses serious concern* about the expected and continued reduction of the budget allocated to provide humanitarian assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons in Africa in 2018 and 2019 while there has been no substantial decrease in the number of refugees;

33. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide material and financial assistance for the implementation of programmes intended for the rehabilitation of the environment and infrastructure affected by refugees in countries of asylum as well as internally displaced persons, where appropriate;

34. *Urges* the international community, in the spirit of international solidarity and burden-sharing, to continue to fund generously the refugee programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant humanitarian organizations and, taking into account the substantially increased needs of programmes in Africa, inter alia, as a result of repatriation possibilities, to ensure that Africa receives a fair and equitable share of the resources designated for refugees;

35. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner and interested States to identify protracted refugee situations which might lend themselves to resolution through the development of specific, multilateral, comprehensive and practical approaches to resolving such refugee situations, including the improvement of international burden- and responsibility-sharing and the realization of durable solutions, within a multilateral context, and recalls that those solutions include voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and resettlement in a third country, while reaffirming that voluntary repatriation, supported, as necessary, by rehabilitation and development assistance to facilitate sustainable reintegration, remains the preferred solution;

36. *Recalls* the need to reflect on effective strategies to ensure adequate protection and assistance for internally displaced persons and to prevent and reduce such displacement, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to work with Member States and the United Nations system to explore ways to better address the long-term needs of internally displaced persons, support communities that host them and improve the lives of the many millions of internally displaced persons;

37. *Expresses grave concern* about the plight of internally displaced persons in Africa, welcomes the efforts of African States in strengthening the regional mechanisms for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, calls upon States to take concrete action to pre-empt internal displacement and to meet the protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons, recalls in that regard the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,<sup>171</sup> notes the current activities of the Office of the High Commissioner related to the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including in the context of inter-agency arrangements in this field, emphasizes that such activities should be consistent with relevant General Assembly resolutions and should not undermine the refugee mandate of the Office and the institution of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue his dialogue with States on the role of his Office in this regard;

38. *Welcomes* the efforts by the High Commissioner to improve coordination with Member States and other United Nations agencies;

39. *Encourages* African States, together with development and humanitarian actors, to work closely on multi-year strategies for refugees and internally displaced persons, factoring in the subregional dimension of many forced displacement crises;

40. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the human rights of internally displaced persons to continue the ongoing dialogue with Member States and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in accordance with the Council's mandate, and to include information thereon in all reports to the Council and the General Assembly;

41. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, taking fully into account, inter alia, the situation of their host communities, refugee camps and the efforts expended by countries of asylum and those aimed at bridging funding gaps, under the item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions".

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<sup>171</sup> E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.



## RESOLUTION 73/151

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/583, para. 16),<sup>172</sup> by a recorded vote of 181 to 2, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Hungary, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Libya

### 73/151. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of his Office<sup>173</sup> and the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its sixty-ninth session<sup>174</sup> and the decisions contained therein,

*Recalling* its previous annual resolutions on the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees since its establishment by the General Assembly,

*Expressing deep concern* that the number of people who are forcibly displaced owing to, inter alia, conflict, persecution and violence, including terrorism, has reached the highest level since the Second World War,

*Noting with grave concern* that, despite the tremendous generosity of host countries and donors, including unprecedented levels of humanitarian funding, the gap between needs and humanitarian funding continues to grow,

*Recognizing* that forced displacement has, inter alia, humanitarian and development implications,

*Expressing its appreciation* for the leadership shown by the High Commissioner, and commending the staff of his Office and its partners for the competent, courageous and dedicated manner in which they discharge their responsibilities,

*Underlining its strong condemnation* of all forms of violence to which humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel are increasingly exposed,

<sup>172</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Zambia.

<sup>173</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/73/12 (Part I) and A/73/12 (Part II)).*

<sup>174</sup> *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 12A (A/73/12/Add.1).

*Reaffirming* the need for consistency with international law, including international refugee law, and relevant General Assembly resolutions that may concern the work of the Office of the High Commissioner, and taking into account national policies, priorities and realities,

*Recalling* its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations and all subsequent General Assembly resolutions on the subject, including resolution 72/133 of 11 December 2017,

1. *Welcomes* the important work undertaken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and its Executive Committee in the course of the year, which is aimed at strengthening the international protection regime and at assisting Governments in meeting their protection responsibilities, and underlines the significance of durable solutions, the securing of which is one of the principal goals of international protection;

2. *Endorses* the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its sixty-ninth session;<sup>174</sup>

3. *Recognizes* the relevance of the Executive Committee's practice of adopting conclusions, and encourages the Executive Committee to continue this process;

4. *Recalls* the adoption of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants<sup>175</sup> and the two annexes thereto at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, on 19 September 2016, and encourages States to implement their commitments made therein;

5. *Notes* the significant global and regional initiatives, conferences and summits undertaken in 2018 to strengthen international solidarity with and cooperation for refugees and other persons of concern, and encourages those who participated to implement their commitments made therein;

6. *Reaffirms* the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees<sup>176</sup> and the 1967 Protocol thereto<sup>177</sup> as the foundation of the international refugee protection regime, recognizes the importance of their full and effective application by States parties and the values they embody, notes with satisfaction that 149 States are now parties to one or both instruments, encourages States not parties to consider acceding to those instruments and States parties with reservations to give consideration to withdrawing them, underlines, in particular, the importance of full respect for the principle of non-refoulement, and recognizes that a number of States not parties to the international refugee instruments have shown a generous approach to hosting refugees;

7. *Urges* States that are parties to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol thereto to respect their obligations in letter and spirit;

8. *Re-emphasizes* that the protection of refugees is primarily the responsibility of States, whose full and effective cooperation, action and political resolve are required to enable the Office of the High Commissioner to fulfil its mandated functions, and strongly emphasizes the importance of active international solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing;

9. *Welcomes* recent accessions to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons<sup>178</sup> and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness,<sup>179</sup> notes that 91 States are now parties to the 1954 Convention and 73 States are parties to the 1961 Convention, encourages States that have not done so to give consideration to acceding to those instruments, notes the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees with regard to identifying stateless persons, preventing and reducing statelessness and protecting stateless persons, and urges the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to work in this area in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions and Executive Committee conclusions;

10. *Re-emphasizes* that prevention and reduction of statelessness are primarily the responsibility of States, in appropriate cooperation with the international community, in this regard welcomes the global campaign to end

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<sup>175</sup> Resolution 71/1.

<sup>176</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

<sup>177</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 606, No. 8791.

<sup>178</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 360, No. 5158.

<sup>179</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 989, No. 14458.

statelessness within a decade, including its high-level meeting on statelessness to take place in 2019, and encourages all States to consider actions they may take to further the prevention and reduction of statelessness, and welcomes efforts that have been made by States in this regard;

11. *Also re-emphasizes* that protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons are primarily the responsibility of States, in appropriate cooperation with the international community, aimed at, inter alia, facilitating voluntary, safe and dignified return, integration or relocation in their own country;

12. *Notes* the current activities of the Office of the High Commissioner related to protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including in the context of inter-agency arrangements in this field, emphasizes that such activities should be carried out with the full consent of the affected States, consistent with relevant General Assembly resolutions, and should not undermine the refugee mandate of the Office and the institution of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue his dialogue with States on the role of his Office in this regard;

13. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to respond adequately to emergencies, in accordance with its mandate and in cooperation with States, notes the measures taken by the Office to strengthen its capacity to respond to emergencies, and encourages the Office to pursue its efforts to further strengthen its emergency capacity and thereby ensure a more predictable, effective and timely response;

14. *Also encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to work in partnership and in full cooperation with relevant national authorities, United Nations offices and agencies, international and intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations, the private sector and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the continued development of humanitarian response capacities at all levels, and recalls the role of the Office as the leading entity of the clusters for protection, camp coordination and management and emergency shelter in complex emergencies;

15. *Further encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner, among other relevant United Nations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations and humanitarian and development actors, to continue to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian response and to contribute, in consultation with States, as appropriate, to making further progress towards common humanitarian needs assessments, as stated, among other important issues, in General Assembly resolution 72/133 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

16. *Welcomes* the recent efforts by the Office of the High Commissioner to ensure a more inclusive, transparent, predictable and well-coordinated response to refugees as well as internally displaced persons and other persons of concern, consistent with its mandate, and in this regard takes note of the implementation of the refugee coordination model;

17. *Underlines* the centrality of international cooperation to the refugee protection regime, recognizes the burden that large movements of refugees place on major and long-standing refugee-hosting countries and their host communities, as well as their national resources, especially in the case of developing countries, and calls for a more equitable sharing of the burden and responsibility for hosting and supporting the world's refugees, addressing the needs of refugees and hosting States, while taking account of existing contributions and the differing capacities and resources among States, and in the context of the global compact on refugees, emphasizes the need for robust, well-functioning, concrete arrangements and potential, complementary mechanisms for ensuring predictable, equitable, efficient and effective burden- and responsibility-sharing;

18. *Takes note with appreciation* of the elements set out in the comprehensive refugee response framework contained in annex I to the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, and recalls the request to the Office of the High Commissioner to develop and initiate a comprehensive refugee response based on the principles of international cooperation and on burden- and responsibility-sharing, in close coordination with relevant States, including host countries, and involving other relevant United Nations entities as laid out in annex I to the New York Declaration;

19. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts made by the increased number of countries applying the comprehensive refugee response framework, including through regional approaches, where applicable, such as the comprehensive regional protection and solutions framework (MIRPS) and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development regional approach, which contributed to the development of the global compact on refugees;

20. *While recognizing* contributions already made, renews its call upon all States and other relevant stakeholders to provide the necessary support for the application of the comprehensive refugee response framework with a view to sharing the burden and responsibilities for hosting and supporting refugees, and underscores the critical importance of additional development support over and above regular development assistance for host countries and countries of origin;

21. *Invites* the High Commissioner to continue coordinating the effort to measure the impact arising from hosting, protecting and assisting refugees, with a view to assessing gaps in international cooperation and promoting burden- and responsibility-sharing that is more equitable, predictable and sustainable, and to report on the results to Member States in 2019;

22. *Commends* the Office of the High Commissioner for the comprehensive and transparent process of engagement and consultation undertaken to develop the global compact on refugees, involving all States Members of the United Nations and other relevant stakeholders, as requested of the High Commissioner by the General Assembly;

23. *Affirms* the global compact on refugees, as presented by the High Commissioner for Refugees in part II of the annual report on the activities of his Office submitted to the seventy-third session of the General Assembly,<sup>173</sup> and underscores its importance as a representation of political will and ambition of the international community to operationalize the principle of burden- and responsibility-sharing, to mobilize the international community as a whole, and galvanize action for an improved response to refugee situations;

24. *In view of* the need to urgently achieve strengthened burden- and responsibility-sharing, and reiterating its commitment to reach this end, calls upon the international community as a whole, including States and other relevant stakeholders, to implement the global compact on refugees, in order to achieve its four objectives on an equal footing, in accordance with the guiding principles and paragraph 4 of the global compact on refugees, through concrete actions, pledges and contributions, including at the first Global Refugee Forum, underlining the centrality of international cooperation to the refugee protection regime, and requests the High Commissioner to report regularly on the progress being made;

25. *Calls upon* States and other stakeholders that have not yet contributed to burden- and responsibility-sharing to do so, with a view to broadening the support base, in a spirit of international solidarity and cooperation;

26. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to engage in and implement in full the objectives of the “Delivering as one” initiative;

27. *Notes with appreciation* the measures taken and efficiencies gained in the process of structural and management change to reinforce the capacity of the Office of the High Commissioner, and encourages the Office to focus on continuous improvement, consistent with recent relevant initiatives and the change management process of the Office, in order to enable a more efficient response to the needs of persons of concern, including identifying unmet needs, and to ensure the effective and transparent use of its resources;

28. *Welcomes* the commitment and efforts of the Office of the High Commissioner to prevent, mitigate and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment, fraud, corruption and other forms of misconduct, and encourages the Office to sustain action with a view to strengthening and enforcing the zero-tolerance approach within the Office;

29. *Expresses deep concern* about the increasing threats to the safety and security of humanitarian aid workers and convoys and, in particular, the loss of life of humanitarian personnel working in the most difficult and challenging conditions in order to assist those in need;

30. *Emphasizes* the need for States to ensure that perpetrators of attacks committed on their territory against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel do not operate with impunity and that the perpetrators of such acts are promptly brought to justice as provided for by national laws and obligations under international law;

31. *Strongly condemns* attacks on refugees, asylum seekers, stateless persons and internally displaced persons and acts that pose a threat to their personal security and well-being, calls upon all States concerned and, where applicable, parties involved in an armed conflict to take all measures necessary to respect and ensure respect for human rights and international humanitarian law, and urges all States to fight racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, related intolerance and hate speech;

32. *Deplores* the refoulement and unlawful expulsion of refugees and asylum seekers, and calls upon all States concerned to respect the relevant principles of refugee protection and human rights;

33. *Urges* States to uphold the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements, inter alia, through effective measures to prevent the infiltration of armed elements, to identify and separate any such armed elements from refugee populations, to settle refugees in secure locations and to afford to the Office of the High Commissioner and, where appropriate, other humanitarian organizations prompt, unhindered and safe access to asylum seekers, refugees and other persons of concern;

34. *Notes with increasing concern* that asylum seekers, refugees and stateless persons are subject to arbitrary detention in numerous situations and encourages working towards the ending of this practice, welcomes the increasing use of alternatives to detention, especially in the case of children, and emphasizes the need for States to limit detention of asylum seekers, refugees and stateless persons to that which is necessary, giving full consideration to possible alternatives;

35. *Notes with grave concern* the significant risks to which many refugees and asylum seekers are exposed as they attempt to reach safety, and encourages international cooperation to ensure adequate response mechanisms, including life-saving measures, reception, registration and assistance, as well as to ensure that safe and regular access to asylum for persons in need of international protection remains open and accessible;

36. *Expresses grave concern* at the large number of asylum seekers who have lost their lives at sea trying to reach safety, encourages international cooperation to further strengthen search and rescue mechanisms in accordance with international law, and commends the great life-saving efforts and actions taken by a number of States in this regard;

37. *Emphasizes* that the international protection of refugees is a dynamic and action-oriented function that is at the core of the mandate of the Office of the High Commissioner and that it includes, in cooperation with States and other partners, the promotion and facilitation of the admission, reception and treatment of refugees in accordance with internationally agreed standards and the ensuring of durable, protection-oriented solutions, bearing in mind the particular needs of vulnerable groups and paying special attention to those with specific needs, and notes in this context that the delivery of international protection is a staff-intensive service that requires adequate staff with the appropriate expertise, especially at the field level;

38. *Expresses grave concern* about the long-term impact of continued cuts in food rations on the health and well-being of refugees globally, particularly in Africa and the Middle East, and especially its impact on children, owing to insufficient funding and increased costs, and in this regard calls upon States to ensure sustained support for the Office of the High Commissioner and the World Food Programme, while looking to provide refugees with alternatives to food assistance, pending a durable solution;

39. *Welcomes* the positive steps taken by individual States to open their labour markets to refugees;

40. *Affirms* the importance of age, gender and diversity mainstreaming in analysing protection needs and ensuring the participation of refugees and other persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner, as appropriate, in the planning and implementation of programmes of the Office and of State policies, also affirms the importance of according priority to addressing discrimination, gender inequality and the problem of sexual and gender-based violence, recognizing the importance of addressing the protection needs of women, children and persons with disabilities in particular, and underlines the importance of continuing to work on those issues;

41. *Encourages* States to put in place, if they have not yet done so, appropriate systems and procedures to ensure that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration with regard to all actions concerning refugee children;

42. *Notes with concern* that a large proportion of the world's out-of-school population lives in conflict-affected areas, and calls upon States to meet their commitments in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, to lend support to host countries in providing quality primary and secondary education in safe learning environments for all refugee children, and to do so within a few months of the initial displacement, as well as the commitments in the Incheon Declaration: Education 2030: Towards inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all to develop more inclusive, responsive and resilient education systems to meet the needs of children, youth and adults in these contexts, including internally displaced persons and refugees;

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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43. *Notes* the efforts by the Office of the High Commissioner to improve its humanitarian assistance response, and stresses the importance of tailored, innovative approaches, including cash-based interventions;

44. *Also notes* that the lack of civil registration and related documentation makes persons vulnerable to statelessness and associated protection risks, recognizes that birth registration provides an official record of a child's legal identity and is crucial to preventing and reducing statelessness, and welcomes efforts by States to ensure the birth registration of children;

45. *Strongly reaffirms* the fundamental importance and the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the function of the Office of the High Commissioner of providing international protection to refugees and seeking durable solutions to refugee situations, and recalls that those solutions include voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and resettlement in a third country, while reaffirming that voluntary repatriation, supported, as necessary, by rehabilitation and development assistance to facilitate sustainable reintegration, remains the preferred solution;

46. *Expresses concern* about the particular difficulties faced by the millions of refugees in protracted situations, recognizes with deep concern that the average length of stay has continued to grow, and emphasizes the need to redouble international efforts and cooperation to find practical and comprehensive approaches to resolving their plight and to realize durable solutions for them, consistent with international law and relevant General Assembly resolutions;

47. *Recognizes* the importance of achieving durable solutions to refugee situations and, in particular, the need to address in this process the root causes of refugee movements;

48. *Encourages* further efforts by the Office of the High Commissioner, in cooperation with countries hosting refugees and countries of origin, including their respective local communities, relevant United Nations agencies, international and intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations, as appropriate, non-governmental organizations and development actors, to actively promote durable solutions, particularly in protracted refugee situations, with a focus on sustainable, timely, voluntary, safe and dignified return, which encompasses repatriation, reintegration, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities, and encourages States and other relevant actors to continue to support these efforts through, inter alia, the allocation of funds;

49. *Recalls* the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the Office of the High Commissioner, calls upon the international community and the Office to exert further efforts to promote and facilitate whenever the prevailing circumstances are deemed appropriate, the safe, dignified and voluntary repatriation of refugees, through their free and informed choice, in a sustainable manner, to their countries of origin, and encourages the Office and where appropriate, other United Nations agencies, to mobilize further resources in this regard;

50. *Expresses concern* about the current low level of voluntary repatriation, encourages the solution-oriented approach pursued by the Office of the High Commissioner to support the sustainability of voluntary repatriation and reintegration, including from the onset of displacement, and in this regard urges the Office to further strengthen partnerships with national Governments and development actors, as well as international financial institutions;

51. *Recognizes*, in the context of voluntary repatriation, the importance of resolute efforts in the country of origin, including rehabilitation and development assistance, to foster the voluntary, safe and dignified return and sustainable reintegration of refugees and to ensure the restoration of national protection;

52. *Acknowledges with appreciation* voluntary action taken by several host countries to enable permanent residence and naturalization for refugees and former refugees;

53. *Calls upon* States to create opportunities for resettlement as a durable solution and as an indispensable tool for burden- and responsibility-sharing, acknowledges with appreciation the many countries that continue to offer enhanced resettlement opportunities and recognizes the need to further increase the number of resettlement places and the number of countries with regular resettlement programmes and to improve the integration of resettled refugees, calls upon States to ensure inclusive and non-discriminatory policies in their resettlement programmes, and notes that resettlement is a strategic protection tool and solution for refugees, recalling in this regard the annual resettlement needs identified by the Office of the High Commissioner;

54. *Also calls upon* States to consider creating, expanding or facilitating access to complementary and sustainable pathways to protection and solutions for refugees, in cooperation with relevant partners, including the



private sector, where appropriate, including through humanitarian admission or transfer, family reunification, skilled migration, labour mobility schemes, scholarships and education mobility schemes;

55. *Notes with appreciation* the activities undertaken by States to strengthen the regional initiatives that facilitate cooperative policies and approaches on refugees, and encourages States to continue their efforts to address, in a comprehensive manner, the needs of the people who require international protection in their respective regions, including the support provided for host communities that receive large numbers of persons who require international protection;

56. *Notes* the importance of States and the Office of the High Commissioner discussing and clarifying the role of the Office in mixed migratory flows in order to better address protection needs in the context of mixed migratory flows, bearing in mind the particular needs of vulnerable groups, especially women, children and persons with disabilities, including by safeguarding access to asylum for those in need of international protection, and also notes the readiness of the High Commissioner, consistent with his mandate, to assist States in fulfilling their protection responsibilities in this regard;

57. *Emphasizes* the obligation of all States to accept the return of their nationals, calls upon States to facilitate the return of their nationals who have been determined not to be in need of international protection, and affirms the need for the return of persons to be undertaken in a safe and humane manner and with full respect for their human rights and dignity, irrespective of the status of the persons concerned;

58. *Calls upon* States to process asylum applications by duly identifying those in need of international protection, in accordance with their applicable international and regional obligations, so as to strengthen the refugee protection regime;

59. *Expresses concern* about the challenges associated with climate change and environmental degradation to the operations of the Office of the High Commissioner and the assistance it provides to vulnerable populations of concern across the globe, particularly in the least developed countries, and urges the Office to continue to address such challenges in its work, within its mandate, and in consultation with national authorities and in cooperation with competent agencies in its operations;

60. *Urges* all States and relevant non-governmental and other organizations, in conjunction with the Office of the High Commissioner, in a spirit of international solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing, to cooperate and to mobilize resources, including through financial and in-kind assistance, as well as direct aid to host countries, refugee populations and the communities hosting them, with a view to enhancing the capacity of and reducing the heavy burden borne by countries and communities hosting refugees, in particular those that have received large numbers of refugees and asylum seekers, and whose generosity is appreciated;

61. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to play its catalytic role in mobilizing assistance from the international community to address the root causes as well as the economic, environmental, development, security and social impact of large-scale refugee populations in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition, and notes with appreciation those host countries, donor States, organizations and individuals that contribute to improving the condition of refugees through building the resilience of refugees and their host communities, while working towards a durable solution;

62. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the cooperation of the Office of the High Commissioner with development partners, noting the advantages of complementarity of funding sources to support refugees and host communities as requested by host Governments, and the importance of doing so in a manner that does not negatively impact or reduce support for broader development objectives in host countries and, where appropriate, countries of origin;

63. *Expresses concern* that the needs required to protect and assist persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner continue to increase and that the gap between global needs and available resources continues to grow, appreciates the continued and increasing hospitality of host countries and generosity of donors, and therefore calls upon the Office to continue and enhance efforts to broaden its donor base so as to achieve greater burden- and responsibility-sharing by reinforcing cooperation with governmental donors, non-governmental donors and the private sector;

64. *Recognizes* that adequate and timely resources are essential for the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to fulfil the mandate conferred upon it through its statute<sup>180</sup> and by subsequent General Assembly resolutions on refugees and other persons of concern, recalls its resolution 58/153 of 22 December 2003 and subsequent resolutions on the Office of the High Commissioner concerning, inter alia, the implementation of paragraph 20 of the statute of the Office, and urges Governments and other donors to respond promptly to annual and supplementary appeals issued by the Office for requirements under its programmes;

65. *Requests* the High Commissioner to report on his annual activities to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session.

### RESOLUTION 73/152

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/584, para. 11),<sup>181</sup> by a recorded vote of 121 to 4, with 60 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Belarus, Israel, Myanmar, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan

### 73/152. Report of the Human Rights Council

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 60/251 of 15 March 2006, by which it established the Human Rights Council, and 65/281 of 17 June 2011 on the review of the Council,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 62/219 of 22 December 2007, 63/160 of 18 December 2008, 64/143 of 18 December 2009, 65/195 of 21 December 2010, 66/136 of 19 December 2011, 67/151 of 20 December 2012, 68/144 of 18 December 2013, 69/155 of 18 December 2014, 70/136 of 17 December 2015, 71/174 of 19 December 2016 and 72/153 of 19 December 2017,

*Having considered* the recommendations contained in the report of the Human Rights Council,<sup>182,183</sup>

*Takes note* of the report of the Human Rights Council,<sup>182</sup> including the addendum thereto,<sup>183</sup> and its recommendations.

<sup>180</sup> Resolution 428 (V), annex.

<sup>181</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Ecuador, Mozambique (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States) and Russian Federation.

<sup>182</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/73/53).*

<sup>183</sup> *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 53A (A/73/53/Add.1).

## RESOLUTION 73/153

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/585, para. 56)<sup>184</sup>

### 73/153. Child, early and forced marriage

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its resolutions 69/156 of 18 December 2014 and 71/175 of 19 December 2016 on child, early and forced marriage,

*Recalling* its resolutions 72/154 of 19 December 2017 on the girl child and 71/170 of 19 December 2016, entitled “Intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: domestic violence”, as well as Human Rights Council resolution 35/16 of 22 June 2017 on child, early and forced marriage in humanitarian settings<sup>185</sup> and all other previous resolutions relating to child, early and forced marriage,

*Guided* by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>186</sup> which marks its seventieth anniversary in 2018, as well as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights<sup>187</sup> and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>187</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>188</sup> and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>189</sup> together with the relevant Optional Protocols thereto,<sup>190</sup> as well as other relevant human rights instruments, and recalling the Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages,<sup>191</sup>

*Reaffirming* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>192</sup> which marks its twenty-fifth anniversary in 2018, as well as the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,<sup>193</sup> the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action<sup>194</sup> and the outcome documents of their review conferences,

*Taking note* of the relevant agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women,

*Welcoming* the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>195</sup> and noting the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda and the range of Goals and targets relevant to eliminating child, early and forced marriage, including target 5.3,

<sup>184</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

<sup>185</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/72/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>186</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>187</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>188</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>189</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>190</sup> *Ibid.*, vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531, and resolution 66/138, annex; and United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2131, No. 20378.

<sup>191</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 521, No. 7525.

<sup>192</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

<sup>193</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>194</sup> *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.

<sup>195</sup> See resolution 70/1.

*Taking note with appreciation* of the ongoing United Nations Population Fund-United Nations Children's Fund Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage, as well as international, regional, national and subnational instruments, mechanisms and initiatives to end child, early and forced marriage, including the African Union Campaign to End Child Marriage, the Regional Action Plan to End Child Marriage in South Asia, the Joint Inter-Agency Programme to End Child Marriage and Early Unions in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Southern African Development Community Model Law on Eradicating Child Marriage and Protecting Children Already in Marriage, and further encouraging coordinated approaches to action at all levels,

*Recognizing* that child, early and forced marriage is a harmful practice that violates, abuses or impairs human rights and is linked to and perpetuates other harmful practices and human rights violations and that such violations have a disproportionately negative impact on women and girls, and underscoring the human rights obligations and commitments of States to promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women and girls and to prevent and eliminate the practice of child, early and forced marriage,

*Recognizing also* that social protection, education, adequate health care, nutrition, full access to clean water, including safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, skills development and the combating of discrimination and violence against girls, among other things, are all necessary for the empowerment of the girl child,

*Noting* the recent progress made globally towards ending child, early and forced marriage, including a decrease in the proportion of girls who were married before the age of 18 in the past decade from one in four to approximately one in five, while expressing concern that, despite this global trend, progress has been uneven across regions and that the current pace of change is not sufficient to eliminate child, early and forced marriage by 2030,

*Recognizing* that, in some contexts, the practice of child, early and forced marriage may include arrangements that are not formalized, registered or recognized by a religious or State authority, that such arrangements should be addressed in policies and programmes on child, early and forced marriage and that the gathering of information on these arrangements will help to develop responses for affected girls and women,

*Noting with concern* that deep-rooted gender inequalities and stereotypes, harmful practices, perceptions and customs, and discriminatory norms are not only obstacles to the full enjoyment of human rights and the empowerment of all women and girls but are also among the root causes of child, early and forced marriage, and that the persistence of child, early and forced marriage places children, in particular the girl child, at greater risk of being exposed to and encountering various forms of discrimination and violence throughout their lives,

*Noting with concern also* that poverty, insecurity, early pregnancy and lack of education are also among the root causes of child, early and forced marriage, that armed conflict and humanitarian emergencies are among the exacerbating factors and that child, early and forced marriage remains common in rural areas and among the poorest communities, and recognizing that the immediate alleviation and eventual eradication of extreme poverty must remain a high priority for the international community,

*Recognizing* that child, early and forced marriage is underrecognized and underreported and often coincides with impunity and lack of accountability, particularly at the community level, and that the persistence of child, early and forced marriage places women and girls at greater risk of being exposed to and encountering various forms of discrimination and violence throughout their lives, including marital rape and sexual, physical and psychological violence, and reinforces the lower status of girls and adolescent girls in society,

*Recognizing also* that child, early and forced marriage is a major impediment to the achievement of the economic empowerment of women and their social and economic development, thereby hampering the ability of women to enter, advance and remain in the labour market, and that this harmful practice can impede economic independence and impose direct and indirect short- and long-term costs on society, and recognizing further that the economic autonomy of women can expand their options for leaving abusive relationships,

*Recognizing further* that child, early and forced marriage undermines women's and girls' autonomy and decision-making in all aspects of their lives and that the empowerment of and investment in all women and girls, as well as the strengthening of their voice, agency, leadership and meaningful participation in all decisions that affect them, are key factors in breaking the cycle of gender inequality and discrimination, violence and poverty and are critical, inter alia, for sustainable development, peace, security, democracy and inclusive economic growth,

*Bearing in mind* the vital importance of birth registration for the realization of the human rights of individuals, especially girls,

*Recognizing* that men and boys should play a role as strategic partners and allies of women and girls and that their meaningful engagement can contribute to transforming discriminatory social norms that perpetuate gender-based violence, as well as child, early and forced marriage, ending this practice and achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls,

*Recognizing also* that families, communities and religious, traditional and community leaders play an essential role in transforming negative social norms and confronting gender inequality, and recognizing further that empowering girls, including already married girls, requires their active participation in decision-making processes and as agents of change in their own lives and communities, including through women's and girls' organizations, with the active support and engagement of their parents, legal guardians, families and care providers, boys and men, as well as the wider community,

*Recognizing further* the need to support girls and women who were subjected to child, early and forced marriage, as well as their children, and underscoring the importance of removing structural barriers that prevent their access to services that respond to their specific needs,

*Noting with concern* that child, early and forced marriage disproportionately affects girls who have received little or no formal education and is itself a significant obstacle to educational opportunities and the development of employable skills for girls and young women, in particular girls who are forced to drop out of school owing to pregnancy, marriage, childbirth and/or childcare responsibilities, and that educational possibilities and opportunities are directly related to the empowerment of women and girls, their employment and economic opportunities and their active participation in economic, social and cultural development, governance and decision-making,

*Noting with concern also* that, despite gains in providing access to education, girls are still more likely than boys to remain excluded from primary and secondary education, and recognizing that the attendance of girls at school can be affected by negative perceptions of menstruation and lack of means to maintain safe personal hygiene, such as water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in schools that meet the needs of girls,

*Recognizing* that child, early and forced marriage remains a serious threat to multiple aspects of the physical and psychological health of women and girls, including but not limited to their sexual and reproductive health, significantly increasing the risk of early, frequent and unintended pregnancy, maternal and newborn mortality and morbidity, obstetric fistula and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV and AIDS, as well as increasing vulnerability to all forms of violence,

*Recognizing also* that the incidence and risk of child, early and forced marriage can increase during humanitarian emergencies, situations of forced displacement, armed conflict and natural disasters because of various factors, including insecurity, increased risks of sexual and gender-based violence, the misconception of providing protection through marriage, gender inequality, lack of access to continuous, quality education, the stigmatization of pregnancy outside marriage, the absence of family planning services, disruption in social networks and routines, increased poverty and the absence of livelihood opportunities, and that this requires increased attention, appropriate protection measures and coordinated action by relevant stakeholders, with the full and meaningful participation of the women and girls affected, from the early stages of humanitarian emergencies, and recognizing further the importance of addressing the increased vulnerability of women and girls to sexual and gender-based violence and exploitation in those situations,

*Recognizing further* that preventing and ending child, early and forced marriage and supporting married girls and women affected by this harmful practice require appropriate gender- and age-sensitive protection, prevention and response measures, as well as coordinated action by relevant stakeholders, and that existing gaps in the collection and use of reliable data and evidence remain a major challenge for programming and informing appropriate measures and actions,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>196</sup>

2. *Calls upon* States, with the participation of relevant stakeholders, including women and girls, men and boys, parents and other family members, teachers, religious, traditional and community leaders, civil society, organizations led by girls, women's organizations, youth and human rights groups, the media and the private sector,

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<sup>196</sup> [A/73/257](#).

to develop and implement holistic, comprehensive and coordinated responses and strategies to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage, to support girls and women who are affected or at risk, who have fled such a marriage or whose marriage has dissolved, and widowed girls or women who were married as girls, including through the strengthening of child protection systems, protection mechanisms such as safe shelters, access to justice and the sharing of best practices across borders;

3. *Also calls upon* States to develop and implement measures at all levels to end child, early and forced marriage, including national and subnational action plans where appropriate, and to make adequate resources available across relevant sectors, including health, nutrition, protection, governance and education;

4. *Urges* States to enact, enforce and uphold laws and policies aimed at preventing and ending child, early and forced marriage, protecting those at risk and addressing the needs of those affected, and work towards the coherence of these laws and policies at the local level, to ensure that marriage is entered into only with the informed, free and full consent of the intending spouses;

5. *Calls upon* States to enact, enforce and uphold laws concerning a minimum age of marriage, to monitor their application and to progressively amend laws with lower minimum ages of marriage and/or ages of majority to 18 and engage all relevant authorities to ensure that these laws are well known;

6. *Urges* States to repeal or amend laws and remove any provisions that enable perpetrators of rape, sexual abuse or abduction to escape prosecution and punishment by marrying their victims;

7. *Calls upon* States to strengthen their efforts to ensure the timely registration of births and marriages, especially for individuals living in rural and remote areas, including by identifying and removing all physical, administrative, procedural and any other barriers that impede access to registration and by providing, where lacking, mechanisms for the registration of customary and religious marriages;

8. *Also calls upon* States to promote the meaningful participation of and active consultation with children and adolescents, including already married girls, on all issues affecting them and to raise awareness about their rights, including the negative impact of child, early and forced marriage, through safe spaces, forums and support networks, including in digital spaces, that provide information, life skills and leadership skills training and opportunities, including catch-up and literacy education, and lifelong learning opportunities, remote learning opportunities and childcare, as needed, to be empowered, to express themselves, to participate meaningfully in all decisions that affect them and to become agents of change within their communities;

9. *Further calls upon* States to promote awareness-raising about the harmful effects of child, early and forced marriage on the individual and wider society and the benefits of ending this harmful practice, including through open dialogue with all stakeholders, including girls and boys, women and men, religious, traditional and community leaders, parents, legal guardians and other family members, to work with local communities to combat negative social norms and gender stereotypes that condone child, early and forced marriage, to empower parents and communities to abandon the practice and to empower all women and girls to make informed decisions about their lives;

10. *Recognizes* that the child, for the full and harmonious development of his or her personality, should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding and that parents or, as the case may be, legal guardians have the primary responsibility for the upbringing and development of the child, acknowledging the need to support their capacity to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage, and reaffirming that the best interests of the child will be their basic concern;

11. *Urges* Governments, while addressing child, early and forced marriage, to confront family poverty and social exclusion through investing in family-oriented policies addressing the multidimensional aspects of poverty, focusing on education, health, employment, social security, livelihoods and social cohesion, paying special attention to gender-sensitive social protection measures, child allowances for parents and pension benefits for older persons and protecting, supporting and empowering children, including girls, in child-headed households;

12. *Also urges* Governments, with the collaboration of relevant stakeholders, to tackle poverty, lack of economic opportunities for women and girls and other entrenched economic incentives that act as drivers of child, early and forced marriage, including by ensuring the rights of women and girls to inheritance and property, their equal access with men and boys to social protection, childcare services and direct financial services, to encourage girls to continue their education, including through their re-enrolment in school after childbirth, to develop livelihood opportunities through access to technical and vocational education and training and life skills education, including



financial literacy, and to promote freedom of movement, women's equal access to full and productive employment and decent work, as well as equal political participation and rights to inherit, own and control land and productive measures;

13. *Encourages* States to promote and protect the human rights of already married girls and women affected by this harmful practice, to promote equality in all aspects of marriage and its dissolution and to address their specific needs, such as through targeted programmes that provide social services to protect them from sexual and gender-based violence, increase their decision-making power, make it easier for them to seek formal employment, increase their economic independence and financial literacy, access education, skills development programmes and lifelong learning opportunities, ensure their equal access to health-care services and information and decrease their social isolation, including by establishing or strengthening childcare services and working with communities to change discriminatory social norms;

14. *Calls upon* States to promote and protect the right of women and girls to equal access to education through enhanced emphasis on free and quality primary and secondary education, including catch-up and literacy education for those who have not received formal education, have left school early or were forced to leave school, including because of marriage, pregnancy, childbirth and/or childcare responsibilities, which empowers young women and girls to make informed decisions about their lives, employment, economic opportunities and health, including through scientifically accurate and age-appropriate comprehensive education that is relevant to cultural contexts, that provides adolescent girls and boys and young women and men, in and out of school, consistent with their evolving capacities, and with appropriate direction and guidance from parents and legal guardians, with the best interests of the child as their basic concern, information on sexual and reproductive health and HIV prevention, gender equality and the empowerment of women, human rights, physical, psychological and pubertal development and power in relationships between women and men, to enable them to build self-esteem and foster informed decision-making, communication and risk reduction skills and to develop respectful relationships, in full partnership with young persons, parents, legal guardians, caregivers, educators and health-care providers, in order to contribute to ending child, early and forced marriage;

15. *Recognizes* that education is one of the most effective ways to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage and to help married women and girls to make informed decisions about their lives, and urges States to remove barriers to education, including by investing in quality primary and secondary education for every child in a safe environment, through adequate financing, ensuring that married girls and boys, pregnant girls and women and young parents continue to have access to schooling, improving access to quality formal education and skills development, especially for those living in remote or insecure areas, improving the safety of girls at and on the way to and from school, providing safe and adequate sanitation, including for menstrual hygiene management, adopting and implementing laws and policies to prohibit, prevent and address violence and to hold perpetrators accountable, strengthening and intensifying their efforts to implement effective violence prevention and response activities in schools and communities, engaging men and boys, community leaders and parents, educating children from a young age regarding their human rights and the importance of treating all people with dignity and respect and designing educational programmes and teaching materials that support respectful relationships, non-violent behaviours, gender equality and empowerment of women and girls;

16. *Encourages* States to adopt, as appropriate, and implement inclusive policies and programmes to promote technical and vocational training and skills development and lifelong learning opportunities, including in science, technology, engineering and mathematics and in information and communications technology, as well as higher educational opportunities for women and girls, including those at risk of or affected by child, early and forced marriage, so as to enable them to gain the knowledge, attitudes and skills that they need to fulfil their full potential;

17. *Urges* Governments to promote, respect and protect the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health through the development and enforcement of policies and legal frameworks and the strengthening of health systems, including health information systems, that make universally accessible and available quality, gender-responsive, adolescent-friendly health services, sexual and reproductive health-care services, information and commodities, HIV and AIDS prevention, testing, treatment and care, mental health services and nutrition interventions and prevention, treatment of and care for obstetric fistula and other obstetric complications by providing the continuum of services, including family planning, prenatal and postnatal care, skilled birth attendance, emergency obstetric care and post-partum care;

18. *Also urges* Governments to promote and protect the human rights of all women and girls, including the right of women, and those girls who have been subjected to child, early and forced marriage, to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health, free of coercion, discrimination and violence, and to adopt and accelerate the implementation of laws, policies and programmes that protect and enable the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including reproductive rights, in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,<sup>193</sup> the Beijing Platform for Action<sup>194</sup> and the outcome documents of their review conferences;

19. *Urges* States to formulate or review, as needed, appropriate policies, programmes or strategies in order to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage, and address discrimination and violence, including domestic violence, which may occur against women and girls subjected to child, early and forced marriage, as well as strengthen child protection systems and provide targets and timetables for implementation;

20. *Also urges* States to ensure access to justice and accountability mechanisms and remedies for the effective implementation and enforcement of laws aimed at preventing and eliminating child, early and forced marriage, including by informing women, girls and boys about their rights under relevant laws, including in marriage and at its dissolution, improving legal infrastructure, removing all barriers to access to legal counselling, assistance and remedies, training law enforcement officers, the judiciary and professionals working with women and children and ensuring oversight of the handling of cases of child, early and forced marriage;

21. *Calls upon* States to develop and implement, in consultation with and with the participation of women and, as appropriate, girls, and integrate into humanitarian responses, from the early stages of humanitarian emergencies, measures to address the increased vulnerability of women and girls to child, early and forced marriage, and to protect women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence and exploitation during humanitarian emergencies, situations of forced displacement, armed conflict and natural disaster, including by ensuring their access to such services as health and education, as well as strengthening follow-up and interventions to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage in humanitarian settings, as well as to address the needs of those affected;

22. *Encourages* relevant United Nations entities and agencies, regional and subregional organizations, within their respective mandates, civil society and other relevant actors and human rights mechanisms to continue to collaborate among themselves and with Member States in developing and implementing strategies and policies at the national, regional and international levels to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage, as well as to support those who were married as children;

23. *Encourages* relevant United Nations entities and agencies, regional and subregional organizations, the international financial institutions, civil society and other relevant actors and human rights mechanisms to continue to collaborate with Member States and national statistical agencies in order to assist in strengthening and building capacity for data and reporting systems for analysing, monitoring and publicly reporting on progress to end child, early and forced marriage based on evidence;

24. *Affirms* the need for States to improve the collection and use of quantitative, qualitative and comparable data on violence against women and harmful practices, disaggregated by sex, age, disability, civil status, race, ethnicity, migratory status, geographical location, socioeconomic status, education level and other key factors, as appropriate, to enhance research and dissemination of evidence-based and good practices relating to the prevention and elimination of child, early and forced marriage and to strengthen monitoring and impact assessment of existing policies and programmes as a means of ensuring their effectiveness and implementation;

25. *Encourages* the international community to fulfil its commitment in supporting developing countries, particularly African countries, least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in strengthening the capacity of national statistical offices and data systems to ensure access to high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data while ensuring national ownership in supporting and tracking progress, including in the context of child, early and forced marriage;

26. *Encourages* Governments to include information on progress towards eliminating child, early and forced marriage, including best practices and implementation efforts, in their national reports to relevant international treaty bodies and the universal periodic review and within the national voluntary reviews conducted through the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report to the General Assembly, based on evidence, before the end of its seventy-fourth session, on progress towards ending child, early and forced marriage

worldwide, best practices for programmes aimed at ending the practice and supporting already married girls and women affected by this practice, including girls' and women's empowerment programmes, gaps in funding, research and data collection, using information provided by Member States, United Nations bodies, agencies, funds and programmes, civil society and other relevant stakeholders;

28. *Invites* the Commission on the Status of Women to consider child, early and forced marriage, among other issues, at its sixty-fourth session, in 2020, to coincide with the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women;

29. *Decides* to consider the issue of child, early and forced marriage at its seventy-fifth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children", taking into account the multifaceted and worldwide nature of this issue.

### RESOLUTION 73/154

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/585, para. 56)<sup>197</sup>

#### 73/154. Protecting children from bullying

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 69/158 of 18 December 2014 and 71/176 of 19 December 2016 on protecting children from bullying, all its previous resolutions on the rights of the child and the resolutions adopted by the Human Rights Council that are relevant to the protection of children from bullying,

*Reaffirming* the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>198</sup> and emphasizing that it constitutes the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child and that States parties to the Convention shall undertake all appropriate legislative, administrative and other measures for the implementation of the rights recognized therein,

*Recalling* the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training,<sup>199</sup> the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Declaration of Principles on Tolerance<sup>200</sup> and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Convention against Discrimination in Education,<sup>201</sup>

*Welcoming* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in its entirety,<sup>202</sup> especially the Goals and targets aimed at ending abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children, and at building and upgrading education facilities that are child-, disability- and gender-sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all children, and underscoring the importance of its implementation for ensuring the enjoyment of the rights of the child,

*Recognizing* that the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the review by the high-level political forum on sustainable development of Goals 4 and 16 and the first global review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2019 each present

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<sup>197</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

<sup>198</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>199</sup> Resolution 66/137, annex.

<sup>200</sup> See A/51/201, annex, appendix I.

<sup>201</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 429, No. 6193.

<sup>202</sup> Resolution 70/1.

strategic opportunities to reinforce action and accelerate progress towards the prevention and elimination of bullying and of all forms of violence against children,

*Welcoming* the submission of the information on national implementation efforts for the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>203</sup> and taking note of the report, as well as of the conclusions and recommendations contained therein,

*Recognizing* the importance of international, regional and bilateral multi-stakeholder partnerships and initiatives to advance the effective protection and promotion of the rights of the child and the elimination of violence against children, including all forms of bullying, and in this regard noting with appreciation the efforts of, inter alia, the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children and the WeProtect Global Alliance,

*Noting* the organization of expert consultations at the regional level, promoted by Member States, in order to raise awareness of the impact of bullying on the rights of the child and to share experiences and best practices, as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General,

*Welcoming* the development of national and subnational action plans and awareness-raising campaigns and the enactment of legislation by several Member States to prevent and respond to school violence and bullying, including cyberbullying,

*Recognizing* that bullying, including cyberbullying, can take both direct and indirect forms, from acts of physical, verbal, sexual and relational violence or aggression to social exclusion, including from peer to peer, which can inflict physical, psychological and social harm, and that, although rates differ from country to country, bullying, online or in person, has a negative impact on the fulfilment of the rights of the child and is among children's main concerns, affecting a high percentage of children and compromising their health, emotional well-being and academic work, and acknowledging the need to prevent and eliminate bullying among children,

*Recognizing also* the importance of generating appropriate statistical information and data on bullying, disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability and geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts,

*Concerned* about the occurrence of bullying in all parts of the world and the fact that children who are victimized by such practices may be at heightened risk of compromising their health, emotional well-being and academic work and for a wide range of emotional and/or physical problems, as well as potential long-term effects on the individual's ability to realize his or her own potential,

*Concerned also* that bullying is associated with long-lasting consequences that continue on into adulthood,

*Noting with concern* that children who are marginalized or vulnerable, who face stigmatization, discrimination or exclusion, are disproportionately affected by bullying, both in person and online,

*Recognizing* that bullying often includes a gender dimension and is associated with gender-based violence and stereotyping that negatively affects both boys and girls,

*Noting* the risks associated with the use of new information and communications technologies and applications, including increased vulnerability to bullying, while stressing that they can create new ways to enhance education and, inter alia, foster learning and teaching on the rights of the child and can be useful tools to promote children's protection, including with appropriate guidance from parents and legal guardians, with the best interests of the child as a primary consideration,

*Noting also* the role that information and communications technologies play in reducing the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse, including by empowering children to report such abuses,

*Recalling* the obligations of States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child to ensure that parents or, as the case may be, legal guardians, have the primary responsibility for the upbringing and development of the child as well as to take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the

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<sup>203</sup> [A/73/265](#).

child, and recognizing that the child, for the full and harmonious development of his or her personality, should grow up in a family environment, in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding,

*Acknowledging* the distinct and important roles that parents, legal guardians, schools, civil society, sports associations, communities, State institutions and traditional and non-traditional media each play in securing children's protection from the risks associated with bullying, including cyberbullying, and in preventing all forms of violence, including by promoting children's online safety,

*Recognizing* that early childhood is a critical stage for cognitive, emotional and behavioural development and that the parent-child relationship is a significant factor in predicting bullying behaviour in adolescents, as well as the existing evidence of a link between domestic violence and bullying in schools,

*Emphasizing* that evidence-based initiatives to strengthen children's life skills and respect for human rights, tolerance, concern for others and the responsibility to foster safety, as well as whole-school and whole-community programmes that fully respect all human rights and help to prevent and address bullying, constitute best practices that should be developed, strengthened and shared through international cooperation,

*Acknowledging* that children are uniquely placed to inform effective solutions and responses to bullying, and underlining that children's participation and their contributions, including their views and recommendations, therefore need to be at the centre of efforts to prevent and address bullying and that their effective and meaningful participation is critical to a clear understanding of bullying and its impacts,

1. *Calls upon* Member States:

(a) To continue to take all appropriate measures to prevent and protect children, including in school, from any form of violence, including forms of bullying, by promptly responding to such acts, and to provide appropriate support to children affected by and involved in bullying;

(b) To continue to promote and invest in education, including as a long-term and lifelong process by which everyone learns tolerance and respect for the dignity of others and the means and methods of ensuring such respect in all societies;

(c) To address, through necessary measures, the wider economic and social inequalities that may contribute to bullying, including poverty, gender norms and stereotypes, taking into account that risk factors are mixed and vary depending on country and context;

(d) To develop and implement, as appropriate, measures and restorative practices to repair harm, restore relationships, avoid recidivism, promote the accountability of perpetrators and change aggressive behaviour;

(e) To generate and analyse statistical information and data disaggregated by sex, age and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, and to provide information on disability, with regard to the problem of bullying, as a basis on which to elaborate effective public policies;

(f) To adopt and strengthen, as appropriate, clear and comprehensive measures, including, where relevant, legislation, that seek to prevent and protect children from bullying, including cyberbullying, and provide for safe and child-sensitive counselling and reporting procedures and safeguards for the rights of affected children;

(g) To strengthen the capacities of schools and the skills of professionals working with children in early detection and response to prevent and respond to bullying, including cyberbullying, in particular initiatives to mobilize support to prevent and address this phenomenon, and to ensure that children are informed of any existing public policies to secure their protection;

(h) To continue to raise public awareness, involving family members, legal guardians, caregivers, young people, schools, formal and non-formal education settings, communities, community leaders, the media, sports organizations, athletes, parents and coaches, as well as civil society organizations, with the participation of children, regarding the protection of children from bullying;

(i) To develop parenting and other skills programmes for parents, legal guardians and family members, together with social protection interventions that help to promote a nurturing family environment, reduce the risk of social exclusion and deprivation, prevent family stress and tackle negative social norms that contribute to violence against children and bullying;

(j) To involve and provide children with the opportunity to participate effectively in the development of initiatives to prevent and address bullying, including available support services and safe, accessible, age- and child-sensitive, confidential and independent counselling and reporting mechanisms, to guide them in promoting inclusive and responsible digital behaviour and to inform them of available mental and physical health-care services and procedures in place to support them, where they exist, and encourages Member States to make such support services available, as much as possible;

(k) To pay particular attention to children in vulnerable situations, including through efforts to promote mutual respect and tolerance for diversity in order to overcome stigmatization, discrimination or exclusion;

(l) To continue to share national experiences and best practices for preventing and tackling bullying, including cyberbullying;

2. *Encourages* Member States to continue to share with the Secretary-General, through existing processes and mechanisms, information about any initiatives undertaken at the national or subnational level to prevent and address bullying, including cyberbullying, to promote peaceful social interaction with a view to assessing progress, and to make use of the results achieved;

3. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to adopt appropriate measures, such as plans of action on the prevention of and response to bullying, to implement them effectively and to assess progress in children's protection, drawing on the experience of Member States, the United Nations, regional organizations, academia and civil society actors;

4. *Calls upon* Member States, with assistance from relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to support victims of bullying with access to evidence-based, quality programmes, care and counselling for their physical, psychological and social recovery, as well as psychological care and trauma counselling, rehabilitation and social reintegration;

5. *Welcomes* the continued collaboration of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children with human rights bodies and mechanisms, within their respective mandates, including the special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council, in order to support efforts to prevent and address violence against children, including bullying;

6. *Invites* the Secretary-General to facilitate further international efforts, in collaboration with Member States, to continue to raise awareness of the impact of bullying, on the basis of evidence, including through existing initiatives of United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes.

### RESOLUTION 73/155

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/585, para. 56)<sup>204</sup>

#### 73/155. Rights of the child

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the importance of its resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, by which it adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>205</sup> which constitutes the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, reaffirming also that States parties to the Convention shall undertake all appropriate legislative, administrative and

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<sup>204</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

<sup>205</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.



other measures for the implementation of the rights recognized therein, while bearing in mind the importance of the Optional Protocols to the Convention<sup>206</sup> and calling for their universal ratification and effective implementation, as well as that of other human rights instruments,

*Recalling* all of its previous resolutions on the rights of the child, the most recent of which was resolution 72/245 of 24 December 2017, and recalling also all other relevant resolutions, including resolution 71/176 of 19 December 2016 on protecting children from bullying,

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>207</sup> which proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, and noting that the year 2018 marks its seventieth anniversary,

*Recalling* the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>208</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>208</sup> the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>209</sup> the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,<sup>210</sup> the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees<sup>211</sup> and the 1967 Protocol thereto,<sup>212</sup> the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,<sup>213</sup> the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime<sup>214</sup> and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>215</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women<sup>216</sup> and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,<sup>217</sup> as well as both the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138),<sup>218</sup> and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182),<sup>219</sup> of the International Labour Organization,

*Reaffirming* that the general principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including the best interests of the child, non-discrimination, participation and survival and development, provide the framework for actions concerning children,

*Reaffirming also* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>220</sup> the United Nations Millennium Declaration<sup>221</sup> and the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled “A world fit for children”,<sup>222</sup> recalling the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,<sup>223</sup> the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development<sup>224</sup> and the outcome documents of their review conferences, the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit

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<sup>206</sup> Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex.

<sup>207</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>208</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>209</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>210</sup> Ibid., vol. 2716, No. 48088.

<sup>211</sup> Ibid., vol. 189, No. 2545.

<sup>212</sup> Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

<sup>213</sup> Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

<sup>214</sup> Ibid., vol. 2225, No. 39574.

<sup>215</sup> Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

<sup>216</sup> Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>217</sup> Ibid., vol. 1465, No. 24841.

<sup>218</sup> Ibid., vol. 1015, No. 14862.

<sup>219</sup> Ibid., vol. 2133, No. 37245.

<sup>220</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

<sup>221</sup> Resolution 55/2.

<sup>222</sup> Resolution S-27/2, annex.

<sup>223</sup> *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.

<sup>224</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

for Social Development,<sup>225</sup> the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,<sup>226</sup> the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition,<sup>227</sup> the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples<sup>228</sup> and the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples,<sup>229</sup> the Declaration on the Right to Development,<sup>230</sup> the Declaration of the commemorative high-level plenary meeting devoted to the follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children, held in New York from 11 to 13 December 2007,<sup>231</sup> the outcome document, entitled “The future we want”, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012,<sup>232</sup> and the outcome document of the fourth Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour, held in Buenos Aires from 14 to 16 November 2017, and the outcome documents of previous Global Conferences, and recalling also the World Congresses against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents, the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development<sup>233</sup> and the World Education Forum 2015, held in Incheon, Republic of Korea, from 19 to 22 May 2015,

*Underscoring* the importance of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>234</sup> in ensuring the enjoyment of the rights of the child,

*Welcoming* the work undertaken on the Global Compact on Refugees and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, to be considered for adoption in 2018, and recalling the importance of protecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all refugee and migrant children, with the best interests of the child as a primary consideration,

*Taking note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on progress made towards achieving the commitments set out in the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly<sup>235</sup> and on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the issues addressed in resolution [72/245](#),<sup>236</sup> as well as the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children,<sup>237</sup> the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict,<sup>238</sup> the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material,<sup>239</sup> and the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,<sup>240</sup> whose recommendations should be carefully studied, taking fully into account the views of Member States,

*Reaffirming* that States have the primary responsibility to respect, promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the rights of the child,

*Acknowledging* the important role played by national governmental and local structures for children, including, where they exist, ministries and institutions in charge of child, family and youth issues and independent ombudspersons for children or other national institutions for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child,

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<sup>225</sup> *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

<sup>226</sup> See resolution [2542 \(XXIV\)](#).

<sup>227</sup> *Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5–16 November 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No.E.75.II.A.3), chap. I.

<sup>228</sup> Resolution [61/295](#), annex.

<sup>229</sup> Resolution [69/2](#).

<sup>230</sup> Resolution [41/128](#), annex.

<sup>231</sup> Resolution [62/88](#).

<sup>232</sup> Resolution [66/288](#), annex.

<sup>233</sup> See [A/69/76](#), annex, enclosure 2.

<sup>234</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>235</sup> [A/73/223](#).

<sup>236</sup> [A/73/272](#).

<sup>237</sup> [A/73/276](#).

<sup>238</sup> [A/73/278](#).

<sup>239</sup> [A/73/174](#) and [A/73/174/Corr.1](#).

<sup>240</sup> [A/73/171](#).

*Recognizing* that the family has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children, in the best interests of the child, and that children, for the full and harmonious development of their personality, should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding,

*Noting with appreciation* the work to promote and protect the rights of the child carried out by all relevant organs, bodies, entities and organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, by relevant mandate holders and special procedures of the United Nations and by relevant regional organizations, where appropriate, and intergovernmental organizations, and recognizing the valuable role of national human rights institutions and civil society, including non-governmental organizations,

*Noting* the convening of international, regional and national meetings aimed at eliminating all forms of violence against children, including all violent punishment of children, and encouraging additional efforts in this regard,

*Recognizing* the importance of international, regional and bilateral multi-stakeholder partnerships and initiatives to advance the effective protection and promotion of the rights of the child and the elimination of violence against children,

*Noting* efforts aimed at promoting and protecting the right to education and facilitating the continuation of education in situations of armed conflict,

*Profoundly concerned* that the situation of children in many parts of the world remains critical, in an increasingly globalized environment, as a result of the persistence of poverty, social inequality, inadequate social and economic conditions, gender inequality, pandemics, in particular HIV/AIDS, malaria, cholera and tuberculosis, fetal alcohol spectrum disorders and neonatal abstinence syndrome, non-communicable diseases, lack of access to safe drinking water and sanitation, environmental damage, climate change, natural disasters, armed conflict, foreign occupation, displacement, famine, violence, terrorism, abuse, all forms of exploitation, including the commercial sexual exploitation of children, for purposes such as child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material, child sex tourism and trafficking in children, including for purposes of labour and sexual exploitation, organ removal and the transfer of organs of the child for profit, neglect, illiteracy, hunger, intolerance, discrimination, racism, xenophobia, inadequate protection and inadequate access to justice, and convinced that urgent and effective national and international action is called for,

*Profoundly concerned also* that the situation of children in many parts of the world remains negatively affected by the prolonged effects of poverty and inequality, reaffirming that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, recognizing the impact of poverty beyond the socioeconomic context and the intrinsic interlinkage between poverty eradication and the promotion of sustainable development, in this regard underlining the importance of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and recognizing that a strong focus is needed on poverty, deprivation and inequality to prevent and protect children from all forms of violence and to promote the resilience of children, their families and their communities,

*Deeply concerned* that children disproportionately suffer the consequences of discrimination, exclusion, inequality and poverty,

*Profoundly concerned* that children in many parts of the world remain negatively affected by the adverse impacts of climate change, including persistent drought and extreme weather events, land degradation, sea level rise, coastal erosion and ocean acidification, which further threaten health, food security and efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and in this regard calling for the implementation of the Paris Agreement<sup>241</sup> adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

*Recognizing* that the risk of maternal mortality is highest for girls under 15 years of age and that complications in pregnancy and childbirth are a leading cause of death among girls under 15 years of age in many countries,

*Expressing concern* that children with disabilities, particularly girls, face stigmatization, discrimination or exclusion and are disproportionately subjected to mental and physical violence and sexual abuse in all settings,

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<sup>241</sup> See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.

## I

### Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto

1. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 1 to 5 of its resolution 71/177 of 19 December 2016 and that the general principles of, inter alia, the best interests of the child, non-discrimination, participation and survival and development provide the framework for all actions concerning children;
2. *Urges* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>205</sup> and the Optional Protocols thereto<sup>206</sup> as a matter of priority and to implement them effectively and fully, and encourages further efforts by the Secretary-General in this regard;
3. *Urges* States parties to withdraw reservations that are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention or the Optional Protocols thereto and to consider reviewing regularly other reservations with a view to withdrawing them in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;<sup>220</sup>
4. *Notes* the work of the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and for Children and Armed Conflict, the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other sexual abuse material, and the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and, in this regard, their contribution to the progress achieved in the promotion and protection of the rights of children;

## II

### Promotion and protection of the rights of the child and non-discrimination against children

#### Non-discrimination

5. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 6 to 10 of its resolution 71/177, and calls upon States to ensure the enjoyment by all children of all their civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights without discrimination of any kind;
6. *Notes with concern* the large number of children belonging to national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, migrant children, refugee or asylum-seeking children, internally displaced children, children of African descent and children of indigenous origin who are victims of discrimination, including racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, stresses the need to incorporate special measures, in accordance with the principle of the best interests of the child and respect for his or her views and the child's gender-specific needs, including children with disabilities, in education programmes and programmes to combat these practices, and calls upon States to provide special support and to ensure equal access to services for those children;
7. *Calls upon* all States:
  - (a) To ensure the full enjoyment by children with disabilities of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, on an equal basis with other children, in recognition that discrimination against any child on the basis of disability is a violation of the inherent dignity and worth of the child, to enhance inclusion and address barriers faced by children with disabilities, including addressing discriminatory, attitudinal and environmental barriers to their participation and inclusion in society and in the community, and to develop gender- and age-sensitive policies and capacities to ensure the rights and address the particular needs of children, including migrant children, children without parental care, children in street situations and child victims of trafficking, and those affected by climate change, and prevent and respond to cases of gender-based violence;
  - (b) To take all necessary and effective measures to prevent and eliminate all forms of discrimination against girls and all forms of violence, including female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, rape, sexual abuse and harmful practices, including female genital mutilation, child, early and forced marriage, and forced sterilization, by enacting and enforcing legislation and, where appropriate, by formulating comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated national plans, programmes or strategies to protect girls, as well as by promoting awareness-raising and social mobilization initiatives for the protection of their rights;
  - (c) To respect and promote the right of girls and boys to express themselves freely and their right to be heard, to ensure that their views are given due weight, in accordance with their age and level of maturity, in all matters affecting them and to involve children, including children with disabilities, in decision-making processes, taking into account the evolving capacities of children and the importance of involving children's organizations and child-led initiatives;

### Registration, family relations, adoption and alternative care

8. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 11 and 12 of its resolution 71/177, and urges all States parties to intensify their efforts to comply with their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child to preserve the identity of children, including their nationality, name and family relations, as recognized by law, to protect children in matters relating to birth registration, family relations and adoption or other forms of alternative care, recognizing that every effort should be directed to enabling children to remain in or swiftly return to the care of their parents or, when appropriate, other close family members and that, where alternative care is necessary, family and community-based care should be promoted over placement in institutions;

9. *Recalls* every child's right to be registered immediately after birth, to a name, to acquire a nationality and to recognition everywhere as a person before the law, as set out in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>208</sup> respectively, reminds States of their obligation to ensure the registration of the birth of all children without discrimination of any kind, including in the case of late birth registration, calls upon States to ensure that birth registration procedures are universal, accessible, simple, expeditious and effective and provided at minimal or no cost, and recognizes the importance of birth registration as a critical means of preventing statelessness;

10. *Encourages* States to take into account the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children,<sup>242</sup> to adopt and enforce laws and to improve the implementation of policies and programmes, budget allocation and human resources to support children, particularly children living in disadvantaged and marginalized families, to ensure that they are cared for effectively by their own families and communities, and to protect children growing up without parents or caregivers; where alternative care is necessary, decision-making should be in the best interests of the child, in full consultation with the child, as age appropriate, and with the child's legal guardians;

11. *Calls upon* States to take all measures necessary to prevent and combat illegal adoptions and all adoptions that are not in the best interests of the child;

### Economic and social well-being of children

12. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 13 to 15 of its resolution 71/177, calls upon all States and the international community to create an enabling environment in which the well-being of the child is ensured, including by strengthening international cooperation in this field and by implementing their commitments, including the Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>234</sup> and reaffirms that investment in children, especially for early childhood development, has high economic and social returns and that all related efforts to ensure that resources allocated and spent for children, especially on children's education and health, should serve as a means for the fulfilment of the rights of the child;

### Eradication of poverty

13. *Calls upon* all States and the international community to cooperate, support and participate in the global efforts for poverty eradication, to mobilize all necessary resources and support in that regard, according to national plans and strategies, including through an integrated and multifaceted approach based on the rights and well-being of children, and to accelerate their efforts to realize the internationally agreed development and poverty eradication goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, within their time framework, and reaffirms that investments in children and the realization of their rights are among the most effective ways to eradicate poverty;

14. *Urges* States to improve the situation of children living in poverty, in particular extreme poverty, deprived of adequate food and nutrition, water and sanitation facilities, with limited or no access to basic physical and mental health-care services, shelter, education, participation and protection, taking into account that, while a severe lack of goods and services hurts every human being, it is particularly threatening and harmful to children, leaving them unable to enjoy their rights, to reach their full potential and to participate as full members of society, and exposed to conditions that lead to increased violence;

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<sup>242</sup> Resolution 64/142, annex.



### Right to education

15. *Recalls* paragraphs 37 to 50 of its resolution [70/137](#) of 17 December 2015, and also recalls that education is a fundamental human right and a basis for guaranteeing the realization of other human rights and that it is essential for sustainable development and the promotion of peace and tolerance, as well as key to achieving full employment and poverty eradication;

16. *Calls upon* all States to take all appropriate measures to eliminate obstacles to effectively accessing and completing education, such as education that is unaffordable, hunger and poor nutrition, the distance from home to school, the institutionalization of children, armed conflicts, all forms of violence in school, insufficient infrastructure, including lack of access to water and sanitation, the lack of adequate and physically and otherwise safe and accessible schooling facilities for girls, and child labour or heavy domestic work, and to ensure that children who are institutionalized also enjoy their right to education;

17. *Urges* all States to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against girls in the field of education and to ensure equal access for all girls to all levels of education, including through gender-responsive policies and programmes, improving the safety of girls on the way to and from school, taking steps to ensure that all schools are accessible, safe, secure and free from violence and providing separate and adequate sanitation facilities that provide privacy and dignity, thereby contributing to achieving equal opportunity and combating exclusion and ensuring school attendance, including for girls as well as for children from low-income families, children who become heads of households and girls who are already married or pregnant;

18. *Calls upon* States to scale up scientifically accurate and age-appropriate comprehensive education, relevant to cultural contexts, that provides adolescent girls and boys and young women and men, in and out of school, consistent with their evolving capacities, and with appropriate direction and guidance from parents and legal guardians, with the best interests of the child as their basic concern, with information on sexual and reproductive health and HIV prevention, gender equality and women's empowerment, human rights, physical, psychological and pubertal development and power in relationships between women and men, to enable them to build self-esteem and foster informed decision-making, communication and risk-reduction skills and to develop respectful relationships, in full partnership with young people, parents, legal guardians, caregivers, educators and health-care providers, in order to, inter alia, enable them to protect themselves from HIV infection and other risks;

19. *Reaffirms* the right to education on the basis of equal opportunity and non-discrimination, and calls upon States to make primary education compulsory, inclusive and available free to all children, ensuring that all children have equal access to education of good quality, making secondary education generally available and accessible to all, in particular through the progressive introduction of free education, bearing in mind that special measures to ensure equal access, including affirmative action, contribute to achieving equal opportunity and combating exclusion by eliminating social, economic and gender disparities in education and ensuring school attendance, in particular for girls, children with disabilities, pregnant adolescent girls, children living in poverty, indigenous children, children of African descent, persons belonging to ethnic or religious minorities and children in vulnerable or marginalized situations;

20. *Calls upon* States to accelerate efforts to eliminate gender-specific barriers to the equal enjoyment by girls of their right to education, to address gender-based discrimination, negative social norms and gender stereotypes in education systems, including in curricula, textbooks and teaching methodologies, and to fight all forms of violence, including sexual harassment and school-related sexual and gender-based violence, in and out of schools and other educational settings;

### Right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health

21. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 25 to 28 of its resolution [68/147](#) of 18 December 2013, and calls upon States to take all necessary measures to ensure that the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health is respected, protected and fulfilled without discrimination of any kind, and that all forms of violence are prevented and addressed, in view of their negative impact on the physical and mental health of the child, including through the enactment and implementation of laws, strategies and policies, gender- and child-responsive budgeting and resource allocation, and adequate investment in health systems, including comprehensive and integrated primary health care and youth-friendly physical and mental health-care services, including in efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goals 3 and 5, as well as in the implementation of the global plan of action to strengthen the role of the health system within a national multisectoral response to address interpersonal violence, in particular against women and girls, and against children and in the health workforce;



22. *Calls upon* States to address with all relevant stakeholders, as a matter of priority, the vulnerabilities faced by children affected by and living with HIV by providing care, support and treatment to those children, their families and caregivers and promoting rights-based and child-oriented HIV and AIDS policies and programmes, and to ensure access to affordable, effective and quality prevention, care and treatment, including through correct information, access to voluntary, confidential and affordable testing, comprehensive health care, including sexual and reproductive health care, services and education, and access to safe, affordable, effective, quality pharmaceutical products and medical technologies, by intensifying efforts to develop affordable, accessible and quality tools for early diagnosis and by prioritizing the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of the virus;

23. *Recognizes* the importance of the implementation of the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation for the full realization of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, and therefore urges States and, through them, service providers to ensure a regular supply of safe, accessible and affordable drinking water and sanitation services of good quality and sufficient quantity, guided also by the principles of equity, equality and non-discrimination, bearing in mind that the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation for their populations is to be progressively realized with full respect for national sovereignty;

### **Right to food**

24. *Reaffirms* its resolution [72/173](#) of 19 December 2017 on the right to food, and the right of children to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain his or her physical and mental capacities;

25. *Calls upon* all States to take action to ensure the full realization of the right to food for all and to eliminate child hunger and malnutrition, including through the adoption or strengthening of national programmes to address food security and nutrition and adequate livelihoods, especially regarding vitamin A, iron and iodine deficiencies, the promotion of breastfeeding and a nutritious diet, as well as programmes, for example, school meal programmes, that should ensure adequate nutrition for all children, in order to enable all children to fully develop and maintain their physical and mental capacities, and to take measures, if appropriate, with relevant international organizations, to support programmes that are aimed at combating undernutrition in mothers, in particular during pregnancy, and in children, and the irreversible effects of chronic undernutrition in early childhood, in particular from birth to the age of 2 years;

### **Child labour**

26. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 16 to 18 of its resolution [71/177](#), urges States to take immediate and effective measures to secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour and to end child labour in all its forms, by 2025 at the latest, through stronger legislation and improved cooperation and coordination among ministries and workforces involved in social welfare and protection systems and the education and labour sectors, and to promote education as a key strategy, and urges States to continue to promote the engagement of all sectors of society in creating an enabling environment for the eradication of child labour;

### **Prevention and elimination of and response to violence against children**

27. *Recalls* paragraphs 19 to 36 of its resolution [72/245](#), and recalls article 19 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in which States parties are required to take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child;

28. *Also recalls* the United Nations study on violence against children submitted to the General Assembly in 2006,<sup>243</sup> notes with appreciation the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children in continuing to mainstream the study recommendations in the international, regional and national agendas

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<sup>243</sup> [A/61/299](#).

and promoting progress in the protection of children from violence, and takes note with appreciation of her publication entitled “Violence prevention must start in early childhood”;

29. *Condemns* all forms of violence against children in all settings, including physical, psychological and sexual violence, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, child abuse and exploitation, hostage-taking, domestic violence, incest, trafficking in or sale of children and their organs, paedophilia, child prostitution, child pornography, child sex tourism, gang and armed violence, sexual exploitation of children online, bullying, including cyberbullying, and harmful practices, and urges States to strengthen efforts to prevent and protect children from all such violence through a comprehensive approach and to develop an inclusive multifaceted and systematic framework, which is integrated into national planning processes, to respond to violence against children and to provide for safe and child-sensitive counselling and reporting procedures and safeguards for the rights of affected children;

30. *Calls upon* States to protect the child from all forms of physical or psychological violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse in schools, as well as all forms of bullying, and in this context to take measures to promote non-violent forms of discipline in schools and to adopt all appropriate measures to ensure that school discipline is administered in a manner consistent with the child’s human dignity and human rights by taking all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures, in accordance with the best interests of the child, and in this regard welcomes the global campaign to end violence in schools;

31. *Urges* all States to address the gender dimension of all forms of violence against children and incorporate a gender perspective in all policies adopted and actions taken to protect children against all forms of violence and harmful practices, including female genital mutilation and child, early and forced marriage, ensuring that marriage is entered into only with the informed, free and full consent of the intending spouses, and to repeal or amend relevant laws and policies to remove any provision that may enable child, early or forced marriage or enables perpetrators of rape, sexual abuse or abduction to escape prosecution and punishment by marrying their victims;

#### **Promoting and protecting the rights of children, including children in particularly difficult situations**

32. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 26 to 28 of its resolution [71/177](#), and calls upon all States to promote and protect all human rights of all children and to implement evidence-based programmes and measures that provide them with special protection and assistance, including access to inclusive and equitable quality education, health care, social services and social protection;

33. *Calls upon* all States to protect the human rights of all children and to ensure, for children belonging to minorities in vulnerable situations, including migrant children, indigenous children, children of African descent, internally displaced children and children with disabilities, the enjoyment of all human rights as well as access to health care, social services, social protection and accessible and inclusive education on an equal basis with others, and to ensure that all such children, in particular unaccompanied migrant children, internally displaced children and those who are victims of violence and exploitation, receive special protection and assistance and that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration in their policies of integration, return and family reunification;

34. *Also calls upon* all States to protect refugee, asylum-seeking, migrant and internally displaced children, in particular those who are unaccompanied, who are particularly exposed to violence and risks in connection with armed conflict and trafficking in persons, and, taking into account their gender-specific needs, stresses the need for States and the international community to continue to pay more systematic and in-depth attention to the special assistance, protection and development needs of those children through, inter alia, programmes aimed at rehabilitation and physical and psychological recovery and programmes for voluntary return or repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and resettlement, to give priority to family tracing and family reunification and reintegration, and, where appropriate, to cooperate with international humanitarian and refugee organizations, including by facilitating their work, in line with their obligations under international law;

#### **Migrant children**

35. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 40 to 87 of its resolution [71/177](#), and calls upon States to effectively promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all children affected by migration, regardless of their migration status, and to address international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation and dialogue and through a comprehensive and balanced approach, while recognizing the roles and responsibilities of countries of

origin, transit and destination in promoting and protecting the human rights of all children affected by migration and in avoiding approaches that might aggravate their vulnerability;

36. *Also reaffirms* the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants,<sup>244</sup> welcomes the conclusion in 2018 of the process of intergovernmental negotiations of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, considered for adoption by States at the intergovernmental conference held in Marrakech, Morocco, on 10 and 11 December 2018, and stresses the centrality of full respect for the human rights of all migrants, including migrant children;

37. *Takes note* of the joint general comments of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families on the human rights of children in the context of international migration;

38. *Expresses deep concern* regarding the large and growing number of migrant children, particularly those who are unaccompanied or separated from their parents or primary caregivers, who may be particularly vulnerable along their journey, and expresses the commitment to protect the human rights of migrant children, given their vulnerability, in particular unaccompanied migrant children and migrant children with disabilities, to ensure that they receive appropriate protection and assistance and to provide for their health, education and psychosocial development, ensuring that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration in policies on integration, return and family reunification;

39. *Urges* States to ensure, in conformity with their international and domestic obligations and commitments, that return is consistent with international law, including international human rights law, and that repatriation mechanisms allow for the identification and special protection of persons in vulnerable situations, including all migrant children, and to take into account the principle of the best interests of the child, clarity of reception and care arrangements and family reunification;

40. *Welcomes* programmes that allow migrant children to integrate fully into countries of destination, promote a harmonious, inclusive and respectful environment and facilitate family reunification in order to promote the welfare and the best interests of migrant children and adolescents, as applicable under national law, due process and the relevant provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto, and to comply with the consular notification and access obligations set forth in the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations<sup>245</sup> so that States may provide child-sensitive consular assistance, as appropriate, including legal assistance;

#### **Children and the administration of justice**

41. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 29 to 31 of its resolution 71/177, and calls upon all States to respect and protect the rights of child victims and witnesses and children alleged to have infringed or recognized as having infringed penal law, as well as children of persons alleged to have infringed or recognized as having infringed penal law, and to ensure that the arrest, detention or imprisonment of a child should be in conformity with the law and should be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time;

42. *Urges* States to intensify their efforts to protect children deprived of their liberty from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, to ensure that, if they are arrested, detained or imprisoned, children are provided with prompt access to legal and other appropriate assistance and have the right to challenge the legality of the deprivation of their liberty before a court or other competent authority and to a prompt decision on any such action and that, from the moment they are arrested, children have the right to maintain contact with their family through correspondence and visits, save in exceptional circumstances, that no child is sentenced or subjected to forced labour, corporal punishment or emotional or physical violence or deprived of access to and provision of health care and services, hygiene and environmental sanitation, nutritious food, access to open space for recreation, education, basic instruction and vocational training and access to safe, confidential and independent mechanisms to report on violence, and that the conditions in such settings are regularly and effectively monitored, and to undertake prompt investigations of all reported acts of violence and ensure that perpetrators are held accountable;

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<sup>244</sup> Resolution 71/1.

<sup>245</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

43. *Encourages* continued regional and cross-regional efforts, the sharing of best practices and the provision of technical assistance in the field of juvenile justice, and in this regard recalls the validity and importance of international standards and norms in the field of human rights in the administration of juvenile justice;

**Prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography**

44. *Reaffirms* paragraph 32 of its resolution [71/177](#), and calls upon all States to prevent, criminalize, prosecute and punish all forms of the sale and trafficking of children, including for the purposes of removal of organs of the child, child slavery, forced labour and the sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution and child pornography and other child sexual abuse material, with the aim of eradicating those practices, including when perpetrated using the Internet and other information and communications technologies, to combat the existence of a market that encourages such criminal practices and take measures to eliminate the demand that fosters them, as well as to address the rights and needs of victims effectively, including universal access to comprehensive social, physical and mental health and legal services, without discrimination of any kind, and counselling for all victims to ensure their full recovery and reintegration into society, and to take effective measures against the criminalization of children who are victims of exploitation;

45. *Calls upon* States to enact and enforce the necessary legislative or other measures, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and the media, to prevent the distribution over the Internet of child sexual abuse material, including depictions of child sexual abuse, ensuring that adequate mechanisms are in place to enable the reporting and removal of such material and that its creators, distributors and collectors are prosecuted, as appropriate, while working towards ensuring that the opportunities provided by information and communications technologies in the lives of children, as tools for learning, socialization, expression, inclusion and fulfilment of their rights and fundamental freedoms, such as the right to education and the right to freedom of expression, including the freedom to seek, receive and impart information and the right to express their views freely, are used to their fullest;

46. *Urges* States to intensify their efforts to ensure the legal protection of children from sexual abuse and exploitation online and to define it legally, in accordance with international human rights law and obligations, to criminalize all relevant conduct related to the sexual exploitation of children online and offline and to ensure that all those in the whole chain of individuals involved in or attempting to commit such criminal activities are held accountable and brought to justice in order to fight impunity, taking into account the multi-jurisdictional and transnational nature of child sexual exploitation and abuse perpetrated online through information and communications technologies;

**Children affected by armed conflict**

47. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 33 to 39 of its resolution [71/177](#), condemns in the strongest terms all violations and abuses committed against children in armed conflict, and in this regard urges all States and other parties to armed conflict that are engaged, in contravention of applicable international law, in the recruitment and use of children, in patterns of killing and maiming of children and/or rape and other sexual violence against children, acknowledging that sexual violence in these situations disproportionately affects girls, but that boys are also targets, in recurrent attacks on schools and/or hospitals and related personnel and in patterns of abduction of children, as well as in all other violations and abuses against children, to take time-bound and effective measures to end and prevent them and to encourage age- and gender-specific support services, including psychological, social and sexual and reproductive health-care services, and education, social protection and reintegration programmes, and notes in this regard the adoption by the Security Council of resolution [2427 \(2018\)](#) of 9 July 2018;

48. *Condemns in the strongest terms* rape and other forms of sexual violence committed against children in armed conflict, expresses deep concern at mass and systematic rape and sexual violence committed against children in armed conflict, in some instances calculated to humiliate, dominate, instil fear in and disperse and/or forcibly displace a population, calls upon all States and relevant United Nations bodies and agencies and regional organizations to take all necessary measures to prevent and address such acts of violence and ensure full accountability on this issue, as well as on the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse of children in United Nations peacekeeping operations, and urges States to adopt appropriate national legislation to prevent such crimes, as well as mass abductions and sexual and gender-based violence, and to ensure their rigorous investigation and prosecution;

49. *Expresses its deep concern* about attacks, as well as threats of attack, in contravention of international humanitarian law, against schools and/or hospitals and related personnel, as well as the closure of schools and hospitals

in situations of armed conflict as a result of attacks and threats of attack, recalls that all parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility for the protection of children, recalls the obligation to refrain from attacking schools and hospitals, in contravention of international humanitarian law, and to take all feasible precautionary measures to protect civilians from such attacks, in particular schoolchildren, and urges all parties to armed conflict to refrain from actions that impede the access of children to education and health-care services;

50. *Calls upon* all Member States to ensure that children associated or allegedly associated with armed groups should be treated primarily as victims and in line with the best interests of the child, and to consider non-judicial measures as alternatives to prosecution and detention and take measures that focus on rehabilitation and reintegration in an environment that fosters the health, self-respect and dignity of the child, in accordance with relevant provisions of international humanitarian law, as well as human rights law, in particular the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

51. *Calls upon* States to protect children affected by armed conflict, in particular from violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law, and to ensure that they receive timely, effective humanitarian assistance, noting the efforts taken to end impunity by ensuring accountability and punishing perpetrators, and calls upon the international community to hold those responsible for violations accountable, inter alia, through the International Criminal Court;

52. *Recalls* that, in accordance with international humanitarian law, indiscriminate attacks against civilians, including children, are prohibited and that they shall not be the object of attack, including by way of reprisal or excessive use of force, condemns practices resulting in the killing and maiming of children, demands that all parties immediately put an end to such attacks, and urges all parties to armed conflict to comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law, in particular the principles of distinction, proportionality and the obligation to take all feasible precautions to avoid and, in any event, minimize harm to civilians and civilian objects;

53. *Calls upon* States to ensure timely and adequate funding for national disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes for children and for settlement, rehabilitation and reintegration efforts for all children associated with armed forces and groups, including detained children, particularly in support of national initiatives, and to secure the long-term sustainability of such efforts, including through the use of a multisectoral and community-based approach that is inclusive of all children, family-based care arrangements, as also highlighted in the Principles and Guidelines on Children Associated with Armed Forces or Armed Groups (the Paris Principles), and the mobilization of financial resources and technical assistance from international cooperation for rehabilitation and reintegration programmes for children;

54. *Notes with appreciation* the steps taken regarding Security Council resolutions [1539 \(2004\)](#) of 22 April 2004, [1612 \(2005\)](#) of 26 July 2005, [1882 \(2009\)](#) of 4 August 2009, [1998 \(2011\)](#) of 12 July 2011, [2068 \(2012\)](#) of 19 September 2012, [2225 \(2015\)](#) of 18 June 2015 and [2427 \(2018\)](#) and the efforts of the Secretary-General to implement the monitoring and reporting mechanism on children and armed conflict in accordance with those resolutions, with the participation of and in cooperation with national Governments and relevant United Nations and civil society actors, including at the country level, requests the Secretary-General to ensure that information collected and communicated by the monitoring and reporting mechanism is accurate, objective and verifiable, and in this regard encourages the work and the deployment of United Nations child protection advisers in peacekeeping operations and political and peacebuilding missions;

### III

#### Follow-up

55. *Expresses support* for the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, and recognizes the progress achieved since the establishment of her mandate in promoting the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against children in all regions and in advancing the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations study on violence against children, including through partnerships with regional organizations, as well as advocacy through thematic consultations, field missions and thematic reports addressing emerging concerns, including on violence prevention in early childhood;

56. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General extend the mandate of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, as established in paragraphs 58 and 59 of its resolution [62/141](#) of 18 December 2007, for a further three years, and maintain support for the effective and independent performance and sustainability of the mandate of the Special Representative, funded from the regular budget;



57. *Urges* all States, requests United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and invites regional organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to cooperate with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children in promoting the further implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations study on violence against children and in supporting Member States in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>234</sup> encourages States to provide support to the Special Representative, including adequate voluntary financial support for the continued, effective and independent performance of her mandate, and invites organizations, including the private sector, to provide voluntary contributions for that purpose;

58. *Recalls* paragraph 52 (d) of its resolution 69/157 of 18 December 2014, in which it invited the Secretary-General to commission an in-depth global study on children deprived of their liberty, to be funded through voluntary contributions, also recalls paragraph 88 of its resolution 71/177 and paragraph 37 of its resolution 72/245, in which it invited the designated independent expert to submit a final report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, and in this regard encourages Member States and United Nations agencies, funds, programmes and offices, as well as other relevant stakeholders, to contribute to and support the elaboration of the study;

59. *Decides*:

(a) To request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a comprehensive report on the rights of the child containing information on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and on the issues addressed in the present resolution, with a focus on children without parental care;

(b) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to continue to submit reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on the activities undertaken in the fulfilment of her mandate, including information on her field visits and on the progress achieved and the challenges remaining on the children and armed conflict agenda;

(c) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, in carrying out her mandate for the protection of children in situations of armed conflict, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council, to continue to engage proactively with relevant United Nations bodies and agencies, Member States, regional and subregional organizations and non-State armed groups, including by negotiating action plans, securing commitments, advocating for appropriate response mechanisms and ensuring attention and follow-up to the conclusions and recommendations of the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, and reaffirms the important role the Special Representative can play in contributing to conflict prevention;

(d) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children to continue to submit annual reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on the activities undertaken in fulfilment of her mandate, consistent with paragraphs 58 and 59 of its resolution 62/141, including information on her field visits and on the progress achieved and the challenges remaining on the violence against children agenda;

(e) To request the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material, to continue to submit reports to the General Assembly and the Council on the activities undertaken in fulfilment of her mandate, including information on her field visits and on the progress achieved and the challenges remaining in the prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the sexual exploitation and abuse of children;

(f) To invite the Chair of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to present an oral report on the work of the Committee and to engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session as a way to enhance communication between the Assembly and the Committee;

(g) To invite Member States and relevant United Nations bodies to formally commemorate the upcoming thirtieth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 2019, including by convening a high-level plenary meeting of the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly, in an intergovernmental effort to maintain momentum and increase action on the rights of the child, and requests the President of the General Assembly to conduct consultations with Member States to finalize, through a resolution, the organizational and procedural arrangements for the high-level plenary meeting;



(h) To continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-fourth session under the item entitled “Promotion and protection of the rights of children”.

### RESOLUTION 73/156

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/586, para. 8)<sup>246</sup>

#### 73/156. Rights of indigenous peoples

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* all relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council and the Economic and Social Council relating to the rights of indigenous peoples, reaffirming its resolutions 65/198 of 21 December 2010, 66/142 of 19 December 2011, 67/153 of 20 December 2012, 68/149 of 18 December 2013, 69/2 of 22 September 2014, 69/159 of 18 December 2014, 70/232 of 23 December 2015, 71/178 of 19 December 2016, 71/321 of 8 September 2017, 72/155 of 19 December 2017 and 72/247 of 24 December 2017, and recalling Human Rights Council resolutions 27/13 of 25 September 2014,<sup>247</sup> 30/4 of 1 October 2015,<sup>248</sup> 33/12 and 33/13 of 29 September 2016,<sup>249</sup> 36/14 of 28 September 2017<sup>250</sup> and 39/13 of 28 September 2018,<sup>251</sup>

*Reaffirming* the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,<sup>252</sup> which addresses the individual and collective rights of indigenous peoples,

*Reaffirming also* the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, held in New York on 22 and 23 September 2014,<sup>253</sup> in which Heads of State and Government, ministers and representatives of Member States reiterated the important and continuing role of the United Nations in promoting and protecting the rights of indigenous peoples, recalling the inclusive preparatory process for the high-level plenary meeting, including the comprehensive engagement of the representatives of indigenous peoples, and welcoming and reaffirming the commitments, measures and efforts undertaken by States, the United Nations system, indigenous peoples and other actors in its implementation,

*Encouraging* the active engagement of indigenous peoples in the implementation of the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, including at the regional and global levels,

*Recalling* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>254</sup> and stressing the need to ensure that no one is left behind and to reach the furthest behind first, including indigenous peoples, who should participate in, contribute to and benefit without discrimination from the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and encouraging Member States to give due consideration to all the rights of indigenous peoples while implementing the 2030 Agenda,

*Stressing* the importance of promoting and pursuing the objectives of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples also through international cooperation to support national and regional efforts to achieve the ends of the Declaration, including the right to maintain and strengthen the distinct political, legal, economic, social

<sup>246</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Malaysia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

<sup>247</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1, A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.1 and A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.2), chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>248</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/70/53/Add.1), chap. III.

<sup>249</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.1 and A/71/53/Add.1/Corr.1), chap. II.

<sup>250</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/72/53/Add.1), chap. III.

<sup>251</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/73/53/Add.1), chap. II.

<sup>252</sup> Resolution 61/295, annex.

<sup>253</sup> Resolution 69/2.

<sup>254</sup> Resolution 70/1.

and cultural institutions of indigenous peoples and the right to participate fully, if they so choose, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the State,

*Bearing in mind* the policy instruments in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration for Member States to draw on, including to respond to the needs of migrants who face situations of vulnerability, including indigenous peoples,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the agreed conclusions of the sixty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women,<sup>255</sup> in which Governments at all levels and as appropriate, with the relevant entities of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates and bearing in mind national priorities, were urged to promote and protect the rights of indigenous women and girls living in rural and remote areas by addressing the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and barriers they face, including violence, ensuring access to quality and inclusive education, health care, public services, economic resources, including land and natural resources, and women's access to decent work, and promoting their meaningful participation in the economy and in decision-making processes at all levels and in all areas, while respecting and protecting their traditional and ancestral knowledge, and noting the importance for indigenous women and girls of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

*Recognizing* that violence against indigenous women and girls has a negative impact on their enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms and constitutes a major impediment to women's full, equal and effective participation in society, the economy and political decision-making, and in this regard recalling Human Rights Council resolution 32/19 of 1 July 2016, entitled "Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women: preventing and responding to violence against women and girls, including indigenous women and girls",<sup>256</sup> which brings closer attention to this issue, and recognizing also the negative effects of multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination,

*Stressing* the importance of the empowerment and capacity-building of indigenous women and youth, including their full and effective participation in decision-making processes in matters that affect them directly, including policies, programmes and resources, where relevant, that target the well-being of indigenous women, children and youth, in particular in the areas of health, education, employment and the transmission of traditional knowledge, languages and practices, and the importance of taking measures to promote awareness and understanding of their rights,

*Deeply concerned* at the vast number of endangered languages, in particular indigenous languages, and stressing that, despite the continuing efforts, there is an urgent need to preserve, promote and revitalize endangered languages, in particular indigenous languages,

*Reaffirming* the importance of the International Year of Indigenous Languages to draw attention to the critical loss of indigenous languages and the urgent need to preserve, revitalize and promote indigenous languages, including as an educational medium, and to take further urgent steps to that end at the national and international levels,

*Welcoming* the preparations and the progress made for the celebration of the 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages, including the lead role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in developing an action plan and the establishment of the steering committee for organizing the International Year, in consultation and cooperation with Member States, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as indigenous peoples and a range of different stakeholders,

*Recognizing* that indigenous peoples can contribute to a range of issues on the international agenda,

*Recognizing also* the importance to indigenous peoples of revitalizing, using, developing and transmitting to future generations their histories, languages, oral traditions, philosophies, writing systems and literature,

*Expressing concern* that, in some cases, suicide rates in indigenous peoples' communities, in particular among indigenous youth and children, are significantly higher than in the general population,

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<sup>255</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2018, Supplement No. 7 (E/2018/27)*, chap. I, sect. A.

<sup>256</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/71/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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*Bearing in mind* the importance of promoting respect for the rights of indigenous children, in particular eliminating the worst forms of child labour, in accordance with international law, including relevant human rights law and international labour law obligations,

*Recognizing* the importance of access to justice in the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples and individuals and the need to examine and take steps to remove obstacles to justice, especially for indigenous women, indigenous children, youth, older persons and indigenous persons with disabilities,

*Underlining* the responsibility of transnational corporations and other business enterprises to respect all human rights, applicable laws and international principles<sup>257</sup> and operate transparently and in a socially and environmentally responsible manner, and emphasizing the need to refrain from negatively affecting the well-being of indigenous peoples and to take further action towards corporate responsibility and accountability, including the prevention, mitigation and remediation of human rights abuses,

*Taking note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples,<sup>258</sup> noting with concern her findings with regard to attacks against indigenous human rights defenders and her reflections on available prevention and protection measures, and calling upon all States to consider the recommendations contained in the report,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the decision of the Human Rights Council, in its resolution 39/13, that the theme of the annual half-day panel discussion on the rights of indigenous peoples to be held during the forty-fifth session of the Council will be on the protection of indigenous human rights defenders,

*Recognizing* the importance of free, prior and informed consent, as outlined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

*Recognizing also* the value and the diversity of the cultures and the form of social organization of indigenous peoples and their holistic traditional knowledge of their lands, natural resources and environment,

*Recognizing further* the importance of traditional sustainable agricultural practices, including traditional seed supply systems, as well as access to credit and other financial services, markets, secure land tenure, health care and health-care services, social services, education, training, knowledge and appropriate and affordable technologies, including efficient irrigation, the reuse of treated wastewater and water harvesting and storage for indigenous peoples and others living in rural areas,

*Recognizing* the importance of facilitating indigenous peoples' livelihoods, which may be achieved by, inter alia, the recognition of their traditions, adequate public policies and economic empowerment,

*Recognizing also* that the economic empowerment, inclusion and development of indigenous peoples, including through the establishment of indigenous-owned businesses, can enable them to improve their social, cultural, civil and political engagement, achieve greater economic independence and build more sustainable and resilient communities, and noting the contribution of indigenous peoples to the broader economy,

*Concerned* about the extreme disadvantages that indigenous peoples have typically faced across a range of social and economic indicators and about the impediments to their full enjoyment of their rights,

*Stressing* the need to pay particular attention to the rights and special needs of indigenous women, children, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, as set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including in the process of protecting and promoting their equal access to justice,

*Taking note with appreciation* of resolution 72/128 of 7 December 2017, entitled "Observer status for the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean in the General Assembly", in which the General Assembly decided to invite the Fund to participate in the sessions and the work of the Assembly in the capacity of observer,

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<sup>257</sup> Including the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework (A/HRC/17/31, annex).

<sup>258</sup> A/HRC/39/17.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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1. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, takes note of the report of the Special Rapporteur,<sup>259</sup> and encourages all Governments to respond favourably to her requests for visits;
2. *Urges* Governments and the United Nations system, in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples through their representatives and institutions, to continue to implement, when appropriate, measures at the national level, including legislative, policy and administrative measures, to achieve the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples<sup>252</sup> and to promote awareness of it among all sectors of society, including members of legislatures, the judiciary and the civil service, as well as among indigenous peoples, and invites international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, national human rights institutions, where they exist, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, and other relevant actors to contribute to those efforts;
3. *Underscores* the importance of implementing the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples,<sup>253</sup> and reiterates the commitment of Member States to cooperating with indigenous peoples, through their own representative institutions, to develop and implement national action plans, strategies or other measures, where relevant, to achieve the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
4. *Encourages* the leadership of the Secretary-General and of the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, as the responsible senior official of the United Nations system, in overseeing the implementation of and following up on the system-wide action plan to ensure a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, raising awareness of the rights of indigenous peoples and increasing the coherence of the activities of the system in this regard, and encourages the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, resident coordinators and United Nations country teams to implement this plan in full alignment with national development needs and priorities;
5. *Encourages* Member States, resident coordinators and United Nations country teams, within their mandates and in coordination with the Governments concerned, to involve indigenous peoples regarding issues affecting them in the preparation of the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and country programme action plans;
6. *Encourages* Member States to work towards achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
7. *Encourages* those States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), of the International Labour Organization<sup>260</sup> to consider doing so;
8. *Urges* Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to contribute to the Trust Fund on Indigenous Issues, the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples and the United Nations Indigenous Peoples' Partnership, invites indigenous organizations and private institutions and individuals to do likewise, and notes the importance of accessibility, accountability, transparency and balanced geographical distribution in the management of these funds;
9. *Decides* to continue to observe the International Day of Indigenous Peoples every year on 9 August, and requests the Secretary-General to support the observance of the Day from within existing resources;
10. *Encourages* Member States and all organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, the private sector and academia, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to observe the International Day of Indigenous Peoples in an appropriate manner, including through educational and public awareness-raising activities;
11. *Encourages* Member States to give due consideration to all the rights of indigenous peoples in fulfilling the commitments undertaken in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>254</sup> and in the elaboration of national

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<sup>259</sup> [A/73/176](#).

<sup>260</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1650, No. 28383.

action plans and programmes as well as international and regional programmes, applying the pledge to leave no one behind and to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first;

12. *Encourages* States to consider including in their voluntary national reviews for the high-level political forum on sustainable development and their national and global reports information related to indigenous peoples on the progress made and challenges in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, bearing in mind paragraphs 78 and 79 of the 2030 Agenda, and also encourages States to compile disaggregated data to measure progress and to ensure that no one is left behind;

13. *Also encourages* States, according to their relevant national context and characteristics, to collect and disseminate data disaggregated by ethnicity, income, gender, age, race, migratory status, disability, geographic location or other factors, as appropriate, in order to monitor and improve the impact of development policies, strategies and programmes aimed at improving the well-being of indigenous peoples and individuals, to combat and eliminate violence and multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination against them and to support work towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda;

14. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to include information pertinent to indigenous peoples in the forthcoming annual reports on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals;

15. *Stresses* the need to strengthen the commitment of States and the entities of the United Nations system to mainstream the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples into development policies and programmes at the national, regional and international levels, and encourages them to give due consideration to the rights of indigenous peoples in achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda;

16. *Also stresses* the need for indigenous peoples of all regions to contribute to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, and encourages States to engage with indigenous peoples at the local, national and regional levels in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals;

17. *Invites* the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples to give due consideration, within their mandates, to the rights of indigenous peoples as related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

18. *Encourages* the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to continue to provide inputs on indigenous issues to the high-level political forum on sustainable development for consideration in its thematic reviews;

19. *Underlines* the need to intensify efforts, in cooperation with indigenous peoples, to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination against indigenous women, children, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities and to support measures that will ensure their empowerment and full and effective participation in decision-making processes at all levels and in all areas and eliminate structural and legal barriers to their full, equal and effective participation in political, economic, social and cultural life;

20. *Reaffirms* the importance of effective accountability with regard to violence against indigenous women and girls, including sexual violence, abuse and exploitation, and of taking adequate measures to prevent and eliminate such violence;

21. *Invites* the Commission on the Status of Women to consider indigenous women's issues, among others, at the sixty-fourth session of the Commission, to be held in 2020, to coincide with the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, and encourages Governments to cooperate with indigenous peoples at all levels on preparations for the 2020 review so as to benefit from their experience and expertise;

22. *Encourages* States to consider including in their reports related to indigenous peoples and women information on the progress made and challenges in the implementation of Commission on the Status of Women resolutions 49/7 of 11 March 2005, entitled "Indigenous women: beyond the ten-year review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action",<sup>261</sup> and 56/4 of 9 March 2012, entitled "Indigenous women: key actors in poverty and hunger eradication",<sup>262</sup>

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<sup>261</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and E/2005/27/Corr.1), chap. I, sect. D.

<sup>262</sup> *Ibid.*, 2012, Supplement No. 7 and corrigendum (E/2012/27 and E/2012/27/Corr.1), chap. I, sect. D.



23. *Encourages* Member States to establish national mechanisms with adequate funding for the successful implementation of the plan for the 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages in partnership with indigenous peoples, and invites indigenous peoples, as custodians of their own languages, to initiate and develop their own action plans and appropriate measures for the International Year and awareness-raising campaigns to draw attention to the critical loss of indigenous languages;

24. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in active collaboration with other relevant United Nations entities, to organize, as a major event of the 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages, a high-level event on indigenous languages, aiming to consider an outcome document on the International Year, which would be preceded by regional events or preparatory meetings, with the participation of indigenous peoples, encourages Member States to support their organization, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to submit a report on all activities to the General Assembly;

25. *Decides* to convene a high-level event during 2019, organized by the President of the General Assembly, for the conclusion of the International Year of Indigenous Languages, and further requests the President of the General Assembly to support initiatives relevant to the successful celebration of the International Year, within existing resources;

26. *Encourages* Governments to redouble efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labour, both in legislation and in practice, in the context of respect for the human rights of indigenous children, including through international cooperation, as appropriate;

27. *Also encourages* Governments to promote actions to eliminate malnutrition of indigenous children, especially for those living in rural areas, providing them adequate food, water and sanitation, education, health and basic services, and to implement actions for poverty eradication;

28. *Encourages* transnational corporations and other business enterprises to respect human rights, including the rights of indigenous children, and to eliminate the worst forms of child labour from their operations;

29. *Underscores* the need to ensure equal protection of the law and equality before the courts for indigenous women and girls at all levels and, to that end, the importance of providing systematic gender-sensitivity training, as appropriate, for police and security forces, prosecutors, judges and lawyers, integrating gender considerations into security sector reform initiatives, developing protocols and guidelines and enhancing or putting in place appropriate accountability measures for adjudicators;

30. *Encourages* States and entities of the United Nations system to strengthen international cooperation, including to address the disadvantages faced by indigenous peoples, and to increase technical cooperation and financial assistance in this regard;

31. *Encourages* the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and other relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, in accordance with their mandates, to carry out research and evidence-gathering on the prevalence and root causes of suicide among indigenous youth and children and good practices on its prevention and to consider developing, as appropriate, strategies or policies, consistent with national priorities, in cooperation with Member States, to tackle it, including through consultation with indigenous peoples, in particular indigenous youth organizations;

32. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work led by the Presidents of the General Assembly at its seventieth and seventy-first sessions in conducting consultations with Member States, indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions from all regions of the world and existing mechanisms of the United Nations on possible measures to enable the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them, which led to the adoption of Assembly resolution [71/321](#) and its decision to continue its consideration of possible further measures necessary to enhance the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions in relevant United Nations meetings on issues affecting them at its seventy-fifth session, taking into account the achievements in that regard of other bodies and organizations throughout the United Nations system, to be preceded by consultations with indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions from all regions of the world as an input to the intergovernmental process;



33. *Invites* Member States to support the Secretary-General in his efforts or activities to hold regional consultations, including through the regional commissions, as appropriate, before the nineteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, including by hosting such consultations, in accordance with resolution 71/321;

34. *Encourages* the United Nations system to strengthen cooperation with the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean, considering its fundamental role in the Latin American and Caribbean region in processes of dialogue and consultation between States and indigenous peoples;

35. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Rights of indigenous peoples”, and to maintain in the provisional agenda the sub-item entitled “Follow-up to the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples”.

### RESOLUTION 73/157

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/587, para. 26),<sup>263</sup> by a recorded vote of 129 to 2, with 54 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Ukraine, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

#### **73/157. Combating glorification of Nazism, neo-Nazism and other practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance**

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>264</sup> the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>265</sup> the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination<sup>266</sup> and other relevant human rights instruments,

<sup>263</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, India, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mali, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

<sup>264</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>265</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>266</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

*Recalling* the provisions of Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2004/16 of 16 April 2004<sup>267</sup> and 2005/5 of 14 April 2005<sup>268</sup> and relevant Human Rights Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 7/34 of 28 March 2008,<sup>269</sup> 18/15 of 29 September 2011<sup>270</sup> and 21/33 of 28 September 2012,<sup>271</sup> as well as General Assembly resolutions 60/143 of 16 December 2005, 61/147 of 19 December 2006, 62/142 of 18 December 2007, 63/162 of 18 December 2008, 64/147 of 18 December 2009, 65/199 of 21 December 2010, 66/143 of 19 December 2011, 67/154 of 20 December 2012, 68/150 of 18 December 2013, 69/160 of 18 December 2014, 70/139 of 17 December 2015, 71/179 of 19 December 2016 and 72/156 of 19 December 2017 on this issue, and its resolutions 61/149 of 19 December 2006, 62/220 of 22 December 2007, 63/242 of 24 December 2008, 64/148 of 18 December 2009, 65/240 of 24 December 2010, 66/144 of 19 December 2011, 67/155 of 20 December 2012, 68/151 of 18 December 2013, 69/162 of 18 December 2014, 70/140 of 17 December 2015, 71/181 of 19 December 2016 and 72/157 of 19 December 2017, entitled “A global call for concrete action for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action”,

*Acknowledging* other important initiatives of the General Assembly aimed at raising awareness about the suffering of victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and forms of discrimination, including in the historical perspective, in particular regarding commemoration of the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade,

*Recalling* the Charter of the Nuremberg Tribunal, and the Judgment of the Tribunal which recognized as criminal, inter alia, the SS organization and its integral parts, including the Waffen SS, through its officially accepted members implicated in or with knowledge of the commission of war crimes and crimes against humanity connected with the Second World War, as well as other relevant provisions of the Charter and the Judgment,

*Mindful* of the horrors of the Second World War, and stressing in this regard that the victory over Nazism in the Second World War contributed to the establishment of the conditions for the creation of the United Nations, designed to prevent future wars and save succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

*Noting* that neo-Nazism is more than just the glorification of a past movement, it is a contemporary phenomenon with strong vested interests in racial inequality and an investment in gaining broad support for its false claims of racial superiority,

*Recalling* the relevant provisions of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on 8 September 2001,<sup>272</sup> in particular paragraph 2 of the Declaration and paragraphs 84 to 86 of the Programme of Action, as well as the relevant provisions of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference of 24 April 2009,<sup>273</sup> in particular paragraphs 11, 13 and 54,

*Alarmed* at the spread in many parts of the world of various extremist political parties, movements, ideologies and groups of a racist or xenophobic character, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, and at the fact that this trend has resulted in the implementation of discriminatory measures and policies at the local or national levels,

*Noting with concern* that, even where neo-Nazis do not formally participate in government, the presence therein of extreme right-wing ideologues can have the effect of injecting into governance and political discourse the same ideologies that make neo-Nazism so dangerous,

*Alarmed* at music lyrics and video games that advocate racial hatred and incite discrimination, hostility or violence,

<sup>267</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 3 (E/2004/23)*, chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>268</sup> *Ibid.*, 2005, Supplement No. 3 and corrigenda (E/2005/23, E/2005/23/Corr.1 and E/2005/23/Corr.2), chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>269</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/63/53)*, chap. II.

<sup>270</sup> *Ibid.*, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and A/66/53/Add.1/Corr.1), chap. II.

<sup>271</sup> *Ibid.*, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. II.

<sup>272</sup> See A/CONF.189/12 and A/CONF.189/12/Corr.1, chap. I.

<sup>273</sup> See A/CONF.211/8, chap. I.

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*Concerned* by the use of Internet platforms by groups that propagate hate to plan, fundraise and circulate information about public events aimed at promoting racism, xenophobia and related intolerance, such as rallies, demonstrations and acts of violence,

*Seriously concerned* that neo-Nazi groups have increasingly targeted susceptible individuals, mainly children and youth, by means of specifically tailored websites with the aim of their indoctrination,

*Deeply concerned* by all recent manifestations of violence and terrorism incited by violent nationalism, racism, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, Afrophobia, xenophobia and related intolerance, including during sports events,

*Recognizing with deep concern* the alarming increase in instances of discrimination, intolerance and extremist violence motivated by anti-Semitism, Islamophobia and Christianophobia and prejudices against persons of other ethnic origins, religions and beliefs,

*Noting with concern* that the variation in national standards prohibiting hate speech may provide safe havens for neo-Nazi, violent nationalist, xenophobic or racist speech owing to the fact that many neo-Nazi and relevant extremist groups of a racist or xenophobic character operate transnationally by relying on Internet service providers or social media platforms,

*Expressing its concern* about the use of digital technologies by neo-Nazis and other hate groups to disseminate their ideology, while recognizing that digital technologies are of great importance for the enjoyment of human rights and for combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

1. *Reaffirms* the relevant provisions of the Durban Declaration<sup>272</sup> and of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference,<sup>273</sup> in which States condemned the persistence and resurgence of neo-Nazism, neo-Fascism and violent nationalist ideologies based on racial and national prejudice and stated that those phenomena could never be justified in any instance or in any circumstances;

2. *Recalls* the provisions of the Durban Declaration and of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, in which States recognized the positive contribution that the exercise of the right to freedom of expression, in particular by the media and new technologies, including the Internet, and full respect for the freedom to seek, receive and impart information can make to the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, prepared in accordance with the request contained in its resolution 72/156;<sup>274</sup>

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and her Office for their efforts to fight racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including the maintenance by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of the database on practical means to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

5. *Expresses deep concern* about the glorification, in any form, of the Nazi movement, neo-Nazism and former members of the Waffen SS organization, including by erecting monuments and memorials and holding public demonstrations in the name of the glorification of the Nazi past, the Nazi movement and neo-Nazism, as well as by declaring or attempting to declare such members and those who fought against the anti-Hitler coalition and collaborated with the Nazi movement participants in national liberation movements;

6. *Calls for* the universal ratification and effective implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,<sup>266</sup> and encourages those States parties that have not yet done so to consider making the declaration under its article 14, thus providing the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination with the competence to receive and consider communications from individuals or groups of individuals within their jurisdiction claiming to be victims of a violation by a State party of any of the rights set forth in the Convention;

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<sup>274</sup> [A/73/312](#).

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7. *Encourages* States to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination by all appropriate means, including legislation as required by circumstances, while ensuring that the definition of racial discrimination set out therein complies with article 1 of the Convention;

8. *Encourages* those States that have made reservations to article 4 of the Convention to give serious consideration to withdrawing such reservations as a matter of priority, as stressed by the Special Rapporteur;

9. *Acknowledges* that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in all its forms and manifestations, including neo-Nazism, Islamophobia, Christianophobia and anti-Semitism, are a threat to societies as a whole, not just to those racial and ethnic groups that are their direct target;

10. *Recalls* that any legislative or constitutional measures adopted with a view to countering extremist political parties, movements, ideologies and groups of a racist or xenophobic character, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups and similar extremist ideological movements, should be in conformity with the relevant international human rights obligations, in particular articles 4 and 5 of the Convention and articles 19 to 22 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;<sup>265</sup>

11. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to ensure that their legislation is in accordance with their obligations under the Convention, including those under article 4;

12. *Emphasizes once more* the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur that “any commemorative celebration of the Nazi regime, its allies and related organizations, whether official or unofficial, should be prohibited” by States,<sup>275</sup> also emphasizes that such manifestations do injustice to the memory of the countless victims of the Second World War and negatively influence children and young people, and stresses in this regard that it is important that States take measures, in accordance with international human rights law, to counteract any celebration of the Nazi SS organization and all its integral parts, including the Waffen SS, and that failure by States to effectively address such practices is incompatible with the obligations of States Members of the United Nations under its Charter;

13. *Expresses deep concern* about increased frequency of attempts and activities intended to desecrate or demolish monuments erected in remembrance of those who fought against Nazism during the Second World War, as well as to unlawfully exhume or remove the remains of such persons, and in this regard urges States to fully comply with their relevant obligations, inter alia, under article 34 of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions of 1949;<sup>276</sup>

14. *Firmly condemns* incidents that glorify and promote Nazism, such as acts involving pro-Nazi graffiti and paintings, including on monuments dedicated to victims of the Second World War;

15. *Notes with concern* the use of the Internet and social media by neo-Nazi groups to amplify their hate-filled messages and recruit new members across borders, while recognizing that the Internet can also be used to counteract these groups and their activities;

16. *Also notes with concern* the significant number of racist incidents worldwide, including the rise of skinhead groups, which have been responsible for many of these incidents, as well as the resurgence of racist and xenophobic violence targeting, inter alia, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, or on any other grounds, including arson attacks on houses and vandalization of and violence in schools and places of worship;

17. *Reaffirms* that such acts may be qualified as falling within the scope of the Convention, that they may not be justified when they fall outside the scope of the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association as well as the rights to freedom of expression and that they may fall within the scope of article 20 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and may be subject to certain restrictions, as set out in articles 19, 21 and 22 of the Covenant;

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<sup>275</sup> A/72/291, para. 79.

<sup>276</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, No. 17512.

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18. *Encourages* States to take appropriate concrete measures, including legislative and educational ones, in accordance with their international human rights obligations, in order to prevent revisionism in respect of the Second World War and the denial of the crimes against humanity and war crimes committed during the Second World War;

19. *Takes note* of the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance that education that seeks to undercut the racist effects of nationalist populism should include accurate and representative accounts of national history that give voice to racial and ethnic diversity and that expose the untruths of those who attempt to write ethnic groups out of national histories and identities in order to sustain ethnonationalist myths of racially or ethnically “pure” nations;<sup>277</sup>

20. *Condemns without reservation* any denial of or attempt to deny the Holocaust, as well as any manifestation of religious intolerance, incitement, harassment or violence against persons or communities on the basis of ethnic origin or religious belief;

21. *Welcomes* the call of the Special Rapporteur for the active preservation of those Holocaust sites that served as Nazi death camps, concentration and forced labour camps and prisons, as well as his encouragement to States to take measures, including legislative, law enforcement and educational measures, to put an end to all forms of Holocaust denial;<sup>278</sup>

22. *Takes note* of the conclusion of the Special Rapporteur that revisionism and attempts to falsify history may, in certain circumstances, fall under the prohibition of hate speech under article 4 (a) of the Convention, which States are required to declare as offences punishable by law;<sup>279</sup>

23. *Calls upon* States to continue to take adequate steps, including through national legislation, in accordance with international human rights law, aimed at preventing and countering hate speech and incitement to violence against persons in vulnerable situations and, where necessary, to consider reviewing national anti-racism legislation in the light of the increasingly open expression of hate speech and incitement to violence against such persons;

24. *Expresses deep concern* at the increase in instances of groups and individuals espousing ideologies of hatred through the Internet to disseminate ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, organize meetings and violent protests, fundraise and engage in other activities;

25. *Also expresses deep concern* about attempts at commercial advertising aimed at exploiting the sufferings of the victims of war crimes and crimes against humanity committed during the Second World War by the Nazi regime;

26. *Stresses* that the practices described above do injustice to the memory of the countless victims of crimes against humanity committed in the Second World War, in particular those committed by the SS organization and by those who fought against the anti-Hitler coalition and collaborated with the Nazi movement, and may negatively influence children and young people, and that failure by States to effectively address such practices is incompatible with the obligations of States Members of the United Nations under its Charter, including those related to the purposes and principles of the Organization;

27. *Also stresses* that all such practices may fuel contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, Christianophobia, xenophobia and related intolerance and contribute to the spread and multiplication of various extremist political parties, movements and groups of a racist or xenophobic character, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, and in this regard calls for increased vigilance;

28. *Expresses concern* that the human rights and democratic challenges posed by extremist political parties, movements and groups are universal and no country is immune to them;

29. *Emphasizes* the need to take the measures necessary to counter the practices described above, and calls upon States and all other stakeholders to take more effective measures in accordance with international human rights law to prevent, counter and combat those phenomena and extremist movements of a racist or xenophobic character,

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<sup>277</sup> [A/73/305](#) and [A/73/305/Corr.1](#), para. 56.

<sup>278</sup> [A/72/291](#), para. 91.

<sup>279</sup> [A/HRC/38/53](#), para. 15.



which pose a real threat to democratic values, and to increase their vigilance and be proactive in strengthening their efforts to recognize and effectively address those challenges;

30. *Underlines* the importance of data and statistics on racist and xenophobic crimes for identifying the types of offences committed, the profiles of victims and of perpetrators and whether the latter are affiliated with extremist movements or groups, thus enhancing better understanding of the phenomenon and identifying effective measures to address such racist and xenophobic crimes, and recalls in this regard the commitments made in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>280</sup> on data, monitoring and accountability, including collecting data disaggregated by characteristics relevant in national contexts;

31. *Encourages* States to adopt further measures to support training for the police and other law enforcement bodies on the ideologies of extremist political parties, movements and groups whose advocacy constitutes incitement to racist and xenophobic violence, to strengthen their capacity to address racist and xenophobic crimes, to fulfil their responsibility for bringing to justice the perpetrators of such crimes and to combat impunity;

32. *Expresses deep concern* about the increased number of seats occupied by representatives of extremist parties of a racist or xenophobic character in a number of national and local parliaments, and emphasizes in this regard the need for all democratic political parties to base their programmes and activities on respect for human rights and freedoms, democracy, the rule of law and good governance and to condemn all messages disseminating ideas that are based on racial superiority or hatred and that have the objective of fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

33. *Takes note* of the concern of the Special Rapporteur regarding the resurgence of neo-Nazism in contemporary times and growing support for and acceptance of neo-Nazism and related ideology in an increasing number of countries;<sup>281</sup>

34. *Notes with appreciation*, in this regard, the call of the Special Rapporteur upon political leaders and parties to strongly condemn incitement to racial discrimination or xenophobia, to promote tolerance and respect and to refrain from forming coalitions with extremist parties of a racist or xenophobic character;<sup>282</sup>

35. *Takes note* of the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur to continue to take steps through national legislation, in accordance with international human rights law, aimed at preventing hate speech and incitement to violence and to withdraw support – financial and otherwise – from political parties and other organizations that engage in neo-Nazi or other hate speech;<sup>283</sup>

36. *Expresses concern* that ethnic and racial profiling and police violence against persons in vulnerable situations discourage victims from seeking redress owing to distrust of the legal system, and in this regard encourages States to improve diversity within law enforcement agencies and to impose appropriate sanctions against those within the public service found to have committed racially motivated violence or to have used hate speech;

37. *Expresses deep concern* about the increase in reported cases of racist, anti-Semitic, Islamophobic, Arabophobic, Afrophobic and xenophobic manifestations during sports events, including those committed by extremist groups of a racist or xenophobic character, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, and calls upon States, sports federations and other relevant stakeholders to strengthen measures to address such incidents, while also welcoming the steps that many States, sports federations and clubs have taken to eliminate racism at sporting events, including through sport practised without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which require human understanding, tolerance, inclusion, fair play and solidarity;

38. *Recalls* the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur to introduce into national criminal law a provision according to which committing an offence with racist or xenophobic motivations or aims constitutes an aggravating circumstance, allowing for enhanced penalties,<sup>284</sup> and encourages those States whose legislation does not contain such provisions to consider that recommendation;

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<sup>280</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>281</sup> A/HRC/38/53, para. 16.

<sup>282</sup> A/72/291, para. 83.

<sup>283</sup> A/HRC/38/53, para. 35 (c).

<sup>284</sup> A/69/334, para. 81.



39. *Notes* measures taken by States to prevent discrimination against, in particular but not limited to, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, people of African descent, Roma, migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, and to ensure their integration into society, urges States to ensure the full and effective implementation of legal, policy and institutional measures protecting these individuals and groups, including women and girls, and recommends that States effectively guarantee to everyone, without discrimination of any kind, their human rights, including those related to safety and security, access to justice, adequate reparation and appropriate information about their rights, and pursue prosecution and adequate punishment, as appropriate, of those responsible for racist and xenophobic crimes against them, including the possibility of seeking reparation or satisfaction for damages suffered as a result of such crimes;

40. *Underlines* that the roots of extremism are multifaceted and must be addressed through adequate measures such as education, awareness-raising and the promotion of dialogue, and in this regard recommends the increase of measures to raise awareness among young people of the dangers of the ideologies and activities of extremist political parties, movements and groups;

41. *Reaffirms*, in this regard, the particular importance of all forms of education, including human rights education, as a complement to legislative measures, and calls upon States to continue to invest in education, in both conventional and non-conventional curricula, inter alia, in order to transform attitudes and counteract ideas of racial hierarchies and superiority, and counter their negative influence, and to promote the values of non-discrimination, equality and respect for all, as outlined by the Special Rapporteur;

42. *Recognizes* the paramount role of education in promoting human rights and combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, especially in promoting the principles of tolerance, inclusion and respect for ethnic, religious and cultural diversity and preventing the spread of extremist racist and xenophobic movements and ideas;

43. *Emphasizes* the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur presented at the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly, in which he emphasized the importance of history classes in teaching the dramatic events and human suffering which arose out of the adoption of ideologies such as Nazism and Fascism;<sup>285</sup>

44. *Stresses* the importance of other positive measures and initiatives aimed at bringing communities together and providing them with space for genuine dialogue, such as round tables, working groups and seminars, including training seminars for State agents and media professionals, as well as awareness-raising activities, especially those initiated by civil society representatives, which require continued State support;

45. *Underlines* the positive role that relevant United Nations entities and programmes, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, can play in the aforementioned areas;

46. *Reaffirms* article 4 of the Convention, according to which States parties condemn all propaganda and all organizations which are based on ideas or theories of superiority of one race or group of persons of one colour or ethnic origin, or which attempt to justify or promote racial hatred and discrimination in any form, and undertake to adopt immediate and positive measures designed to eradicate all incitement to, or acts of, such discrimination and, to this end, with due regard to the principles embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>264</sup> and the rights expressly set forth in article 5 of the Convention, inter alia:

(a) Shall declare an offence punishable by law all dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, and incitement to racial discrimination, as well as all acts of violence or incitement to such acts against any race or group of persons of another colour or ethnic origin, and also the provision of any assistance to racist activities, including the financing thereof;

(b) Shall declare illegal and prohibit organizations, and also organized and all other propaganda activities, which promote and incite racial discrimination, and shall recognize participation in such organizations or activities as an offence punishable by law;

(c) Shall not permit public authorities or public institutions, national or local, to promote or incite racial discrimination;

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<sup>285</sup> A/64/295, para. 104.

47. *Also reaffirms* that, as underlined in paragraph 13 of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence should be prohibited by law, that all dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, or incitement to racial discrimination, as well as all acts of violence or incitement to such acts, shall be declared offences punishable by law, in accordance with the international obligations of States, and that these prohibitions are consistent with freedom of opinion and expression;

48. *Recognizes* the positive role that the exercise of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, as well as full respect for the freedom to seek, receive and impart information, including through the Internet, can play in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

49. *Encourages* States to strengthen freedom of expression, which can play a crucial role in promoting democracy and combating racist and xenophobic ideologies based on racial superiority;

50. *Expresses concern* about the increased use of the Internet to promote and disseminate racism, racial hatred, xenophobia, racial discrimination and related intolerance, and in this regard calls upon States parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights to counter the dissemination of the above-mentioned ideas while respecting their obligations under articles 19 and 20 of the Covenant, which guarantee the right to freedom of expression and outline the grounds on which the exercise of this right can be legitimately restricted;

51. *Recognizes* the need to promote the use of new information and communications technologies, including the Internet, to contribute to the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

52. *Also recognizes* the positive role that the media can play in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, promoting a culture of tolerance and inclusion and representing the diversity of a multicultural society;

53. *Encourages* States, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to use all opportunities, including those provided by the Internet and social media, to counter, in accordance with international human rights law, the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred and to promote the values of equality, non-discrimination, diversity and democracy;

54. *Encourages* national human rights institutions, where they exist, to develop appropriate programmes to promote tolerance, inclusion and respect for all and to collect relevant information in this regard;

55. *Notes* the importance of strengthening cooperation at the regional and international levels with the aim of countering all manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in particular regarding issues raised in the present resolution;

56. *Stresses* the importance of cooperating closely with civil society and international and regional human rights mechanisms in order to counter effectively all manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, as well as extremist political parties, movements and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, and other similar extremist ideological movements that incite racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

57. *Recalls* the request of the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 2005/5,<sup>268</sup> that the Special Rapporteur continue to reflect on this issue, make relevant recommendations in future reports and seek and take into account in this regard the views of Governments and non-governmental organizations;

58. *Invites* States to consider including in their reports for the universal periodic review and their reports to relevant treaty bodies information on the steps taken to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including with the aim of implementing the provisions of the present resolution;

59. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to prepare, for submission to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session and to the Human Rights Council at its forty-first session, reports on the implementation of the present resolution, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to pay specific attention to paragraphs 5, 11, 12, 13, 16, 23, 25, 42 and 43 above, based on the views collected in accordance with the request of the Commission, as recalled in paragraph 57 above;

60. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments and non-governmental organizations that have submitted information to the Special Rapporteur in the course of the preparation of her report to the General Assembly;

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

61. *Encourages* States and non-governmental organizations to provide information to the Special Rapporteur on developments with regard to the issues raised in the present resolution in order to contribute to the preparation of future reports to the General Assembly;
62. *Stresses* that such information is important for the sharing of experiences and best practices in the fight against extremist political parties, movements and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, and other extremist ideological movements that incite racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;
63. *Encourages* Governments to invest more resources in building and sharing knowledge on successful positive measures to prevent and counter racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance that go beyond sanctioning violations once they have occurred, including the provision of remedies to victims of relevant violations;
64. *Encourages* Governments and non-governmental organizations to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the exercise of the tasks outlined in paragraph 59 above;
65. *Encourages* Governments, non-governmental organizations and relevant actors to disseminate, as widely as possible, information regarding the contents of and the principles outlined in the present resolution, including through the media, but not limited to it;
66. *Decides* to remain seized of the issue.

### RESOLUTION 73/158

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/588, para. 24),<sup>286</sup> by a recorded vote of 172 to 6, with 11 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Australia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Honduras, Kiribati, Liberia, Palau, South Sudan, Togo, Tonga, Vanuatu

<sup>286</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe and State of Palestine.

**73/158. The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination**

*The General Assembly,*

*Aware* that the development of friendly relations among nations, based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, is among the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as defined in the Charter,

*Recalling*, in this regard, its resolution [2625 \(XXV\)](#) of 24 October 1970, entitled “Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations”,

*Bearing in mind* the International Covenants on Human Rights,<sup>287</sup> the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>288</sup> the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples<sup>289</sup> and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,<sup>290</sup>

*Recalling* the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,<sup>291</sup>

*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>292</sup>

*Recalling further* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,<sup>293</sup> and noting in particular the reply of the Court, including on the right of peoples to self-determination, which is a right *erga omnes*,<sup>294</sup>

*Recalling* the conclusion of the Court, in its advisory opinion of 9 July 2004, that the construction of the wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, along with measures previously taken, severely impedes the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination,<sup>295</sup>

*Stressing* the urgency of achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides, based on the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, the Madrid terms of reference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative<sup>296</sup> and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,<sup>297</sup>

*Stressing also* the need for respect for and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and recalling in this regard its resolution [58/292](#) of 6 May 2004,

*Recalling* its resolution [72/160](#) of 19 December 2017,

*Recalling also* its resolution [67/19](#) of 29 November 2012,

*Affirming* the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including the right to their independent State of Palestine;

2. *Urges* all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their right to self-determination.

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<sup>287</sup> Resolution [2200 A \(XXI\)](#), annex.

<sup>288</sup> Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

<sup>289</sup> Resolution [1514 \(XV\)](#).

<sup>290</sup> [A/CONF.157/24 \(Part I\)](#), chap. III.

<sup>291</sup> Resolution [50/6](#).

<sup>292</sup> Resolution [55/2](#).

<sup>293</sup> See [A/ES-10/273](#) and [A/ES-10/273/Corr.1](#).

<sup>294</sup> *Ibid.*, advisory opinion, para. 88.

<sup>295</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 122.

<sup>296</sup> [A/56/1026-S/2002/932](#), annex II, resolution 14/221.

<sup>297</sup> [S/2003/529](#), annex.

## RESOLUTION 73/159

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/588, para. 24),<sup>298</sup> by a recorded vote of 129 to 53, with 10 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Colombia, Fiji, Liberia, Mexico, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe, Solomon Islands, Switzerland, Tonga

### 73/159. Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* all of its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 72/158 of 19 December 2017, and Human Rights Council resolutions 15/12 of 30 September 2010,<sup>299</sup> 15/26 of 1 October 2010,<sup>300</sup> 18/4 of 29 September 2011,<sup>301</sup> 21/8 of 27 September 2012,<sup>302</sup> 24/13 of 26 September 2013,<sup>303</sup> 27/10 of 25 September 2014,<sup>304</sup> 30/6 of 1 October 2015,<sup>305</sup> 33/4 of 29 September 2016,<sup>306</sup> 36/3 of 28 September 2017<sup>307</sup> and 39/5 of 27 September 2018,<sup>308</sup> as well as all resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights in this regard,

*Recalling also* all of its relevant resolutions, in which, inter alia, it condemned any State that permitted or tolerated the recruitment, financing, training, assembly, transit or use of mercenaries with the objective of overthrowing the Governments of States Members of the United Nations, especially those of developing countries, or of fighting against national liberation movements, and recalling further the relevant resolutions and international

<sup>298</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ghana, Guinea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Uganda, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe.

<sup>299</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/65/53/Add.1)*, chap. II.

<sup>300</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. I.

<sup>301</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and A/66/53/Add.1/Corr.1), chap. II.

<sup>302</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/67/53/Add.1)*, chap. III.

<sup>303</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/68/53/Add.1)*, chap. III.

<sup>304</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1, A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.1 and A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.2), chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>305</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/70/53/Add.1)*, chap. III.

<sup>306</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.1 and A/71/53/Add.1/Corr.1), chap. II.

<sup>307</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/72/53/Add.1)*, chap. II.

<sup>308</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/73/53/Add.1)*, chap. III.

instruments adopted by the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Organization of African Unity, inter alia, the Organization of African Unity Convention for the elimination of mercenarism in Africa,<sup>309</sup> as well as by the African Union,

*Reaffirming* the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations concerning the strict observance of the principles of sovereign equality, political independence, the territorial integrity of States, the self-determination of peoples, the non-use of force or of the threat of use of force in international relations and non-interference in affairs within the domestic jurisdiction of States,

*Reaffirming also* that, by virtue of the principle of self-determination, all peoples have the right freely to determine their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development and that every State has the duty to respect this right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter,

*Deeply concerned* at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation that are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of peoples and nations,

*Reaffirming* the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,<sup>310</sup>

*Acknowledging with appreciation* the work and contributions of the open-ended intergovernmental working group established by the Human Rights Council with the mandate of considering the possibility of elaborating an international regulatory framework, including the option of elaborating a legally binding instrument on the regulation, monitoring and oversight of the activities of private military and security companies,

*Alarmed and concerned* at the danger that the activities of mercenaries constitute to peace and security in developing countries in various parts of the world, in particular in areas of armed conflict, and about the threat they pose to the integrity of and respect for the constitutional order of the affected countries,

*Deeply concerned* at the loss of life, the substantial damage to property and the negative effects on the policies and economies of affected countries resulting from international criminal mercenary activities,

*Convinced* that, notwithstanding the way in which mercenaries or mercenary-related activities are used or the form that they take to acquire some semblance of legitimacy, they are a threat to peace, security and the self-determination of peoples and an obstacle to the enjoyment of all human rights by peoples,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the latest report of the Working Group of the Human Rights Council on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination;<sup>311</sup>

2. *Reaffirms* that the use of mercenaries and their recruitment, financing, protection and training are causes for grave concern to all States and that they violate the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Recognizes* that armed conflict, terrorism, arms trafficking and covert operations by third Powers encourage, inter alia, the demand for mercenaries on the global market;

4. *Urges*, once again, all States to take the steps necessary and to exercise the utmost vigilance against the menace posed by the activities of mercenaries and to take legislative measures to ensure that their territories and other territories under their control are not used for, and that their nationals do not take part in, the recruitment, assembly, financing, training, protection or transit of mercenaries for the planning of activities designed to impede the right of peoples to self-determination, to destabilize or overthrow the Government of any State or to dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States conducting themselves in accordance with the right of peoples to self-determination;

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<sup>309</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1490, No. 25573.

<sup>310</sup> Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

<sup>311</sup> A/73/303.



## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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5. *Requests* all States to exercise the utmost vigilance against any kind of recruitment, training, hiring or financing of mercenaries by private companies offering international military consultancy and security services, and to impose a specific ban on such companies intervening in armed conflicts or actions to destabilize constitutional regimes;

6. *Encourages* States that import military assistance or consultancy and security services provided by private companies to establish national regulatory mechanisms for registering and licensing those companies in order to ensure that the imported services provided by those private companies neither impede the enjoyment of human rights nor violate human rights in the recipient country;

7. *Emphasizes its utmost concern* about the impact of the activities of private military and security companies on the enjoyment of human rights, in particular when operating in armed conflicts, and notes that private military and security companies and their personnel are rarely held accountable for violations of human rights;

8. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider acceding to or ratifying the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries;<sup>312</sup>

9. *Welcomes* the cooperation extended by those countries that have received a visit by the Working Group on the use of mercenaries since the establishment of its mandate and the adoption by some States of national legislation that restricts the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries;

10. *Condemns* recent mercenary activities in developing countries in various parts of the world, in particular in areas of conflict, and the threat they pose to the integrity of and respect for the constitutional order of those countries and the exercise of the right of their peoples to self-determination, and stresses the importance for the Working Group on the use of mercenaries of looking into sources and root causes, as well as the political motivations of mercenaries and for mercenary-related activities;

11. *Calls upon* States to investigate the possibility of mercenary involvement whenever and wherever criminal acts of a terrorist nature occur and to bring to trial those found responsible or to consider their extradition, if so requested, in accordance with national law and applicable bilateral or international treaties;

12. *Condemns* any form of impunity granted to perpetrators of mercenary activities and to those responsible for the use, recruitment, financing and training of mercenaries, and urges all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law, to bring them, without distinction, to justice;

13. *Calls upon* Member States, in accordance with their obligations under international law, to cooperate with and assist the judicial prosecution of those accused of mercenary activities in transparent, open and fair trials;

14. *Requests* the Working Group on the use of mercenaries and other experts to continue their participation, including by submitting contributions, in other subsidiary bodies of the Human Rights Council considering issues related to the use of mercenaries and mercenary-related activities in all their forms and manifestations, including private military and security companies;

15. *Requests* the Working Group on the use of mercenaries to continue the work carried out by the previous mandate holders with respect to the strengthening of the international legal framework for the prevention and sanction of the recruitment, use, financing and training of mercenaries, taking into account the proposal for a new legal definition of a mercenary drafted by the Special Rapporteur on the use of mercenaries as a means of impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination in his report submitted to the Commission on Human Rights at its sixtieth session<sup>313</sup> and the evolving phenomenon of mercenaries and its related forms;

16. *Also requests* the Working Group on the use of mercenaries to continue to study and identify sources and causes, emerging issues, manifestations and trends regarding mercenaries or mercenary-related activities and private military and security companies and their impact on human rights, particularly on the right of peoples to self-determination;

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<sup>312</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2163, No. 37789.

<sup>313</sup> See [E/CN.4/2004/15](#), para. 47.

17. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as a matter of priority, to publicize the adverse effects of the activities of mercenaries on the right of peoples to self-determination and, when requested and where necessary, to render advisory services to States that are affected by those activities;

18. *Recommends* that all Member States, including those confronted with the phenomenon of private military and security companies, as contracting States, States of operations, home States or States whose nationals are employed to work for a private military and security company, contribute to the work of the open-ended intergovernmental working group, taking into account the initial work done by the Working Group on the use of mercenaries;

19. *Urges* all States to cooperate fully with the Working Group on the use of mercenaries in the fulfilment of its mandate;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide the Working Group on the use of mercenaries with all the assistance and support necessary for the fulfilment of its mandate, both professional and financial, including through the promotion of cooperation between the Working Group and other components of the United Nations system that deal with countering mercenary-related activities, in order to meet the demands of its current and future activities;

21. *Requests* the Working Group on the use of mercenaries to consult States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on the implementation of the present resolution and to report, with specific recommendations, to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session its findings on the use of mercenaries to undermine the enjoyment of all human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination;

22. *Decides* to consider the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination at its seventy-fourth session under the item entitled “Right of peoples to self-determination”.

### RESOLUTION 73/160

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/588, para. 24)<sup>314</sup>

#### 73/160. Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the importance, for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights, of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and embodied in the International Covenants on Human Rights,<sup>315</sup> as well as in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

*Welcoming* the progressive exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial, foreign or alien occupation and their emergence into sovereign statehood and independence,

*Deeply concerned* at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation that are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of peoples and nations,

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<sup>314</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gambia, Ghana, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe and State of Palestine.

<sup>315</sup> Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

*Expressing grave concern* that, as a consequence of the persistence of such actions, millions of people have been or are being uprooted from their homes as refugees and displaced persons, and emphasizing the urgent need for concerted international action to alleviate their condition,

*Recalling* the relevant resolutions regarding the violation of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights as a result of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its sixty-first<sup>316</sup> and previous sessions,

*Reaffirming* its previous resolutions on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, including resolution 72/159 of 19 December 2017,

*Reaffirming also* its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, containing the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and recalling its resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005, containing the 2005 World Summit Outcome, which, inter alia, upheld the right to self-determination of peoples under colonial domination and foreign occupation,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the right of peoples to self-determination,<sup>317</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* that the universal realization of the right of all peoples, including those under colonial, foreign and alien domination, to self-determination is a fundamental condition for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;

2. *Declares its firm opposition* to acts of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since these have resulted in the suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights in certain parts of the world;

3. *Calls upon* those States responsible to cease immediately their military intervention in and occupation of foreign countries and territories and all acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, in particular the brutal and inhuman methods reportedly employed in the execution of those acts against the peoples concerned;

4. *Deplores* the plight of millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been uprooted as a result of the aforementioned acts, and reaffirms their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and with honour;

5. *Requests* the Human Rights Council to continue to give special attention to violations of human rights, especially the right to self-determination, resulting from foreign military intervention, aggression or occupation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on this question to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session under the item entitled “Right of peoples to self-determination”.

## RESOLUTION 73/161

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589, para. 9)<sup>318</sup>

### 73/161. World Braille Day

*The General Assembly,*

*Recognizing* that multilingualism, as a core value of the Organization, contributes to the achievement of the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as set out in Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter of the United Nations,

<sup>316</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23, E/2005/23/Corr.1 and E/2005/23/Corr.2), chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>317</sup> A/73/329.

<sup>318</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zambia.

*Recognizing also* that the United Nations pursues multilingualism as a means of promoting, protecting and preserving diversity of languages and cultures globally, as well as of improving the efficiency, performance and transparency of the Organization,

*Reaffirming* its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, particularly paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for the proclamation of international years, and paragraphs 13 and 14, in which it is stated that an international day or year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

*Recalling* the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>319</sup> and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>320</sup>

*Recalling also* that Braille is a means of communication for blind persons, as reflected in article 2 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>320</sup> and can be relevant in the contexts of education, freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information and written communication, as well as in the context of social inclusion for blind persons, as reflected in articles 21 and 24 of the Convention,

*Recognizing* that Braille is a tactile representation of alphabetic and numerical symbols using six dots to represent each letter and number, and even musical, mathematical and scientific symbols,

*Recognizing also* that Braille is used by blind and partially sighted people to read the same books and periodicals as those printed in a visual font,

*Affirming* that the use of Braille by individuals who are blind or partially sighted ensures the communication of important information to them and others and represents competency, independence and equality,

*Affirming also* that, because the importance of well-developed literacy skills on the part of all individuals is reflected in the value placed on reading and writing in schools and throughout society, instruction in literacy skills can justifiably be considered the cornerstone of education and an important tool in the fight against poverty,

*Recognizing* that promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms in the context of access to written language is a critical prerequisite to the full realization of human rights for blind and partially sighted people,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 4 January as World Braille Day, to be observed each year beginning in 2019, in order to raise awareness of the importance of Braille as a means of communication in the full realization of the human rights for blind and partially sighted people;

2. *Invites* all Member States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, other international organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to observe World Braille Day in an appropriate manner, in order to raise public awareness of Braille as a means of communication;

3. *Encourages* Member States to take measures throughout society to raise awareness of Braille as a means of communication;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States and organizations of the United Nations system;

5. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions.

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<sup>319</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>320</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

## RESOLUTION 73/162

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.1, para. 21)<sup>321</sup>

### 73/162. Human rights treaty body system

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>322</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>323</sup> the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>324</sup> the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,<sup>325</sup> the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,<sup>326</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>327</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>328</sup> the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,<sup>329</sup> the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment<sup>330</sup> and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,<sup>330</sup>

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolution 1985/17 of 28 May 1985,

*Recalling further* its resolution 68/268 of 9 April 2014 on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system,

*Recalling* its resolution 71/185 of 19 December 2016 on the human rights treaty body system,

*Reaffirming* that the full and effective implementation of international human rights instruments by States parties is of major importance to the efforts of the United Nations to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and that the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system is indispensable for the full and effective implementation of such instruments,

*Recognizing* the important, valuable and unique role and contribution of each of the human rights treaty bodies in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including through their examination of the progress made by States parties to the respective human rights treaties in fulfilling their relevant obligations and their provision of recommendations to States parties on the implementation of such treaties,

*Emphasizing* the importance of multilingualism in the activities of the United Nations, including those linked to the promotion and protection of human rights, and reaffirming the paramount importance of the equality of the six official languages of the United Nations for the effective functioning of the human rights treaty bodies,

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<sup>321</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden and Switzerland.

<sup>322</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>323</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>324</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2716, No. 48088.

<sup>325</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

<sup>326</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>327</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>328</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

<sup>329</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

<sup>330</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2375, No. 24841.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the human rights treaty body system;<sup>331</sup>
2. *Welcomes* the annual reports of the human rights treaty bodies submitted to the General Assembly at its seventy-second<sup>332</sup> and seventy-third<sup>333</sup> sessions and to the Economic and Social Council at its 2017<sup>334</sup> and 2018 sessions;<sup>335</sup>
3. *Invites* the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies to address and engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth and seventy-fifth sessions under the item relevant to the work of the treaty body;
4. *Encourages* all stakeholders to continue their efforts for the full implementation of resolution 68/268;
5. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 26 to 28 of its resolution 68/268, in which it set out how the allocation of meeting time to the treaty bodies would be identified and requested the Secretary-General to provide the corresponding financial and human resources, decided that the meeting time allocated would be reviewed biennially and amended on that basis at the request of the Secretary-General in line with established budgetary procedures, and requested the Secretary-General accordingly to take into account the meeting time needed by the human rights treaty body system in his future biennial programme budget;
6. *Recalls* paragraph 22 of its resolution 68/268, in which it decided, in principle, with the aim of enhancing the accessibility and visibility of the human rights treaty bodies, to webcast, as soon as feasible, the public meetings of the treaty bodies, and decides in this regard to provide, as of 2020, in all the official languages used in the respective committees, live webcasts and video archives of relevant meetings of the treaty bodies that are available, accessible, searchable and secure, including from cyberattacks;
7. *Expresses appreciation* for the organization of discussions on matters related to the implementation of each human rights treaty at meetings of the States parties thereto, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to support such practices;
8. *Also expresses appreciation* for the opportunity to interact with the Chairs of the treaty bodies during their annual meetings, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to support such opportunities;
9. *Further expresses appreciation* for the advisory services, capacity-building and technical assistance provided by the Secretary-General to support States parties in building their capacity to implement their treaty obligations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard;
10. *Reiterates its request*, made in paragraph 40 of its resolution 68/268, that the Secretary-General submit to it a comprehensive report on the status of the human rights treaty body system, and, in view of the decision, in paragraph 41 of that resolution, to consider the state of the human rights treaty body system no later than 2020, requests the Secretary-General to submit that report in January 2020, in advance of the review of the human rights treaty body system.

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<sup>331</sup> [A/73/309](#).

<sup>332</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 18 (A/72/18)*; *ibid.*, *Supplement No. 38 (A/72/38)*; *ibid.*, *Supplement No. 40 (A/72/40)*; *ibid.*, *Supplement No. 44 (A/72/44)*; *ibid.*, *Supplement No. 48 (A/72/48)*; *ibid.*, *Supplement No. 55 (A/72/55)*; and *ibid.*, *Supplement No. 56 (A/72/56)*; see also [A/72/168](#).

<sup>333</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 18 (A/73/18)*; *ibid.*, *Supplement No. 38 (A/73/38)*; *ibid.*, *Supplement No. 41 (A/73/41)*; *ibid.*, *Supplement No. 44 (A/73/44)*; *ibid.*, *Supplement No. 48 (A/73/48)*; and *ibid.*, *Supplement No. 56 (A/73/56)*.

<sup>334</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 2 (E/2017/22)*.

<sup>335</sup> *Ibid.*, 2018, *Supplement No. 2 (E/2018/22)*.



## RESOLUTION 73/163

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.2, para. 162)<sup>336</sup>

### 73/163. Human rights and extreme poverty

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided by the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations,*

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>337</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights<sup>338</sup> and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>338</sup> the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,<sup>339</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>340</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>341</sup> the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities<sup>342</sup> and all other human rights instruments adopted by the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, by which it declared 17 October the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, as well as its resolution 71/186 of 19 December 2016 and its previous resolutions on human rights and extreme poverty, in which it reaffirmed that extreme poverty and exclusion from society constituted a violation of human dignity and an obstacle to the fulfilment of all human rights and that urgent national and international action was therefore required to eliminate them,

*Recalling also* its resolution 52/134 of 12 December 1997, in which it recognized that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights was essential for the effective understanding, promotion and protection of all human rights,

*Recalling further* Human Rights Council resolutions 2/2 of 27 November 2006,<sup>343</sup> 7/27 of 28 March 2008,<sup>344</sup> 8/11 of 18 June 2008,<sup>345</sup> 12/19 of 2 October 2009,<sup>346</sup> 15/19 of 30 September 2010,<sup>347</sup> 17/13 of 17 June 2011,<sup>348</sup> 26/3 of 26 June 2014<sup>349</sup> and 35/19 of 22 June 2017<sup>350</sup> on human rights and extreme poverty, and in this regard underlining the imperative need for their full and effective implementation,

<sup>336</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Viet Nam and Yemen.

<sup>337</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>338</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>339</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

<sup>340</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>341</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>342</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>343</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/62/53)*, chap. I, sect. A.

<sup>344</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/63/53)*, chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>345</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. III, sect. A.

<sup>346</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/65/53 and A/65/53/Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

<sup>347</sup> *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53A (A/65/53/Add.1)*, chap. II.

<sup>348</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/66/53)*, chap. III, sect. A.

<sup>349</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/69/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>350</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/72/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

*Recalling* Human Rights Council resolution [21/11](#) of 27 September 2012,<sup>351</sup> by which the Council adopted the guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights<sup>352</sup> as a useful tool for States in the formulation and implementation of poverty reduction and eradication policies, as appropriate, and encouraging States to implement the guiding principles,

*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, and its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner,

*Recalling* that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets seek to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what they did not achieve, and that they seek to realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls,

*Reaffirming* 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,

*Concerned* that, during the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017), while there was progress in reducing poverty, especially in some middle-income countries, such progress has been uneven and the number of people living in poverty in some countries continues to increase, with women, children and older persons, as well as other persons in vulnerable situations, constituting the majority of those most affected, especially in the least developed countries and particularly in sub-Saharan Africa,

*Reaffirming* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>353</sup> which states the right to development, as established in the Declaration on the Right to Development,<sup>354</sup> as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of fundamental human rights,

*Acknowledging* the significant progress made in several parts of the world in combating extreme poverty, however, deeply concerned that extreme poverty persists in all countries of the world, regardless of their economic, social and cultural situation, and is particularly severe in developing countries, and that it extends to and manifests itself in, among other things, social exclusion, hunger, vulnerability to trafficking in persons and disease, lack of adequate shelter, lack of access to basic services, illiteracy and hopelessness,

*Remaining deeply concerned* that progress has been uneven, inequality has increased, 1.6 billion people still live in multidimensional poverty, the total number of persons living in extreme poverty remains unacceptably high and the non-income dimensions of poverty and deprivation, such as access to quality education or basic health services, and relative poverty remain major concerns,

*Deeply concerned* that gender inequality, gender-based violence and discrimination exacerbate extreme poverty, disproportionately impacting women and girls, recognizing the important role and contribution of women and girls in eradicating poverty, and acknowledging the mutually reinforcing links between the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty,

*Recognizing* the importance of supporting countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and to promote the empowerment of the poor and of people in vulnerable situations, including women, children, young people, indigenous peoples, local communities, older persons, persons with disabilities, migrants, refugees, internally displaced persons, persons belonging to national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and people of African descent,

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<sup>351</sup> *Ibid.*, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. II.

<sup>352</sup> [A/HRC/21/39](#).

<sup>353</sup> [A/CONF.157/24 \(Part I\)](#), chap. III.

<sup>354</sup> Resolution [41/128](#), annex.

*Concerned* by the challenges faced today, including those derived from the ongoing impact of the financial and economic crisis, food insecurity, volatile food prices and other ongoing concerns over global food security, epidemics and large movements of refugees and migrants, as well as the increasing challenges posed by climate change and the loss of biodiversity, and by the resulting increase in the number of people living in extreme poverty, and their negative effect on the capacity of all States, especially developing countries, to fight extreme poverty,

*Bearing in mind* that, in order to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty and vulnerability, promote the well-being of all persons of all ages, boost development efforts, contribute to better outcomes for children and address the feminization of poverty, positive action needs to be taken, including in the form of policies, at the national and international levels, that address existing inequalities in the distribution of services, resources and infrastructure, as well as access to food, health care, education and decent work in cities and other human settlements,

*Recognizing* that the eradication of extreme poverty is a major challenge within the process of globalization that requires the coordination and continuation of inclusive policies through decisive national action and international cooperation, and also recognizing in this context the role of the private sector, including the corporate sector, in the eradication of extreme poverty,

*Recognizing also* that social protection systems make a critical contribution to the realization of human rights for all, in particular for those who are in vulnerable or marginalized situations and are trapped in poverty and subject to discrimination,

*Recognizing further* that persistent and growing inequalities within and among countries are a major challenge to poverty eradication, particularly affecting those who are living in extreme poverty and in vulnerable situations,

*Stressing* the necessity of better understanding and addressing the multidimensional causes and consequences of extreme poverty,

*Reaffirming* that, since the existence of widespread extreme poverty inhibits the full and effective enjoyment of all human rights and may, in some situations, constitute a threat to the right to life, its immediate alleviation and eventual eradication must remain a high priority for the international community,

*Stressing* that respect for all human rights, which are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, is of crucial importance for all policies and programmes to fight extreme poverty,

*Underlining* the priority and urgency given by Heads of State and Government to the eradication of extreme poverty, as expressed in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields,

*Reaffirming* that democracy, development and the full and effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing and that they contribute to the eradication of extreme poverty,

1. *Reaffirms* that extreme poverty, deep inequality and exclusion constitute a violation of human dignity and that urgent national and international action is therefore required to eliminate them;

2. *Also reaffirms* that it is essential for States to foster participation by the poorest people in the decision-making process in the societies in which they live, in the promotion of human rights and in efforts to combat extreme poverty and exclusion and that it is essential for people living in and affected by poverty and in situations of vulnerability to be empowered to organize themselves and to participate in all aspects of political, economic, social, cultural and civic life, in particular the planning and implementation of policies that affect them, thus enabling them to become genuine partners in development;

3. *Emphasizes* that extreme poverty is a major issue to be addressed by Governments, the United Nations system and international financial institutions, the private sector, including the corporate sector, civil society and community-based social organizations, and in this context reaffirms that political commitment is a prerequisite for the eradication of poverty;

4. *Also emphasizes* the need to accord due consideration and priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda, while stressing the importance of addressing the causes and systemic challenges of poverty through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels, consistent with the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

5. *Reaffirms* that the existence of widespread extreme poverty inhibits the full and effective enjoyment of human rights, renders democracy and popular participation fragile and can also create barriers to full and effective participation in political and public life, in particular for women and girls;

6. *Recognizes* the need to respect and to realize human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to address the most pressing social needs of people living in poverty, including through the design and development of appropriate mechanisms to strengthen and consolidate democratic institutions and governance;

7. *Reaffirms* the commitments contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>355</sup> in particular to leave no one behind, to reach the furthest behind and the most vulnerable and to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 1, including by sparing no effort to fight against and eradicate extreme poverty, which is currently measured as people living on less than 1.25 United States dollars a day, for all people everywhere by 2030;

8. *Also reaffirms* the commitment made at the 2005 World Summit to eradicate poverty and promote sustained economic growth, sustainable development and global prosperity for all, including women and girls;<sup>356</sup>

9. *Recalls* that promoting universal access to social services and providing social protection floors can make an important contribution to consolidating and achieving further development gains and that social protection systems that address and reduce inequality and social exclusion are essential for protecting the gains made towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard takes note of the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), of the International Labour Organization;

10. *Encourages* States, when designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating social protection programmes, to ensure gender mainstreaming and the promotion and protection of all human rights in accordance with their obligations under international human rights law, throughout this process;

11. *Calls upon* States to implement gender-responsive social protection policies, as well as fiscal policies that contribute to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by, inter alia, facilitating greater access to and inclusion in social protection and financial and business services, including credit, for women, in particular women heads of household;

12. *Encourages* States to take all necessary measures to eliminate discrimination against all persons, in particular those living in poverty, to refrain from adopting any laws, regulations or practices denying or limiting the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including economic, social and cultural rights, and to ensure that people, in particular those living in poverty, have equal access to justice;

13. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts to strengthen and support South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, recognizing their contributions to the efforts of developing countries to collaborate in the eradication of poverty, and stresses that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation;

14. *Encourages* the international community to strengthen its efforts to address challenges that are contributing to extreme poverty, including those derived from the ongoing impact of the financial and economic crisis, food insecurity, volatile food prices and other ongoing concerns over global food security, epidemics and the increasing challenges posed by climate change and the loss of biodiversity in all parts of the world, especially in developing countries, by enhancing cooperation to help to build national capacities;

15. *Reaffirms* the critical role of quality education and lifelong learning for all in achieving poverty eradication and other development goals, as envisaged in the 2030 Agenda, in particular free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education and training for eradicating illiteracy, efforts towards expanded secondary and higher education as well as vocational education and technical training, especially for girls and women, the creation of human resources and infrastructure capabilities and the empowerment of those living in poverty, also reaffirms in this context the Dakar Framework for Action, adopted at the World Education Forum on 28 April 2000,<sup>357</sup> and the Incheon Declaration: Education 2030: Towards inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all, adopted at the World

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<sup>355</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>356</sup> See resolution 60/1.

<sup>357</sup> See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

Education Forum 2015,<sup>358</sup> and recognizes the importance of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization strategy for the eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty, in supporting the Education for All programmes as tools for achieving Sustainable Development Goal 4 by 2030;

16. *Invites* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to give high priority to the question of the relationship between extreme poverty and human rights, and also invites her Office to pursue further work in this area;

17. *Calls upon* States, United Nations bodies, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Development Programme, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, to continue to give appropriate attention to the links between human rights and extreme poverty, and encourages the private sector, including the corporate sector, and international financial institutions to proceed likewise;

18. *Takes note with appreciation* of the guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights,<sup>352</sup> adopted by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 21/11,<sup>351</sup> as a useful tool for States in the formulation and implementation of poverty reduction and eradication policies, as appropriate;

19. *Encourages* Governments, relevant United Nations bodies, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, other intergovernmental organizations and national human rights institutions, as well as non-governmental organizations and non-State actors, and the private sector, including the corporate sector, to consider the guiding principles in the formulation and implementation of their policies and measures concerning persons affected by extreme poverty;

20. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to disseminate the guiding principles, as appropriate;

21. *Welcomes* the efforts of entities throughout the United Nations system to incorporate the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals set out therein into their work;

22. *Takes note* of the work undertaken by the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on extreme poverty and human rights, including his report submitted to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session<sup>359</sup> and his report submitted to the Assembly at its seventy-third session,<sup>360</sup> and also notes the work of the Secretary-General to address the issues referred to therein;

23. *Decides* to consider the question further at its seventy-fifth session under the sub-item entitled “Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms” of the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”.

#### RESOLUTION 73/164

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.2, para. 162)<sup>361</sup>

#### **73/164. Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons, based on religion or belief**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the commitment made by all States under the Charter of the United Nations to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of all human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to, inter alia, religion or belief,

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<sup>358</sup> See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum 2015, Incheon, Republic of Korea, 19–22 May 2015* (Paris, 2015).

<sup>359</sup> A/72/502.

<sup>360</sup> A/73/396.

<sup>361</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Burundi, Canada, Central African Republic, Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Eritrea, Japan, Sao Tome and Principe, South Sudan, Thailand and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

*Welcoming* Human Rights Council resolutions 16/18 of 24 March 2011,<sup>362</sup> 19/25 of 23 March 2012,<sup>363</sup> 22/31 of 22 March 2013,<sup>364</sup> 28/29 of 27 March 2015,<sup>365</sup> 31/26 of 24 March 2016,<sup>366</sup> 34/32 of 24 March 2017<sup>367</sup> and 37/38 of 23 March 2018<sup>368</sup> and General Assembly resolutions 67/178 of 20 December 2012, 68/169 of 18 December 2013, 69/174 of 18 December 2014, 70/157 of 17 December 2015, 71/195 of 19 December 2016 and 72/176 of 19 December 2017,

*Reaffirming* the obligation of States to prohibit discrimination and violence on the basis of religion or belief and to implement measures to guarantee the equal and effective protection of the law,

*Reaffirming also* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

*Reaffirming further* that the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>369</sup> provides, inter alia, that everyone shall have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, which shall include freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of one's choice and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, and to manifest one's religion or belief in worship, observance, practice and teaching,

*Reaffirming* the positive role that the exercise of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and full respect for the freedom to seek, receive and impart information can play in strengthening democracy and combating religious intolerance, and reaffirming further that the exercise of the right to freedom of expression carries with it special duties and responsibilities, in accordance with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

*Expressing deep concern* at those acts that advocate religious hatred and thereby undermine the spirit of tolerance and respect for diversity,

*Reaffirming* that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

*Condemning* the criminal acts committed by terrorist and extremist groups and movements against persons based on their religion or belief, and deeply regretting attempts to link such acts to any one specific religion or belief,

*Reaffirming* that violence can never be an acceptable response to acts of intolerance on the basis of religion or belief,

*Recalling* its adoption of resolutions 69/140 of 15 December 2014, 70/19 of 3 December 2015, 71/249 of 22 December 2016 and 72/136 of 11 December 2017 on the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace, 69/312 of 6 July 2015 on the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and 67/104 of 17 December 2012, in which the General Assembly proclaimed the period 2013–2022 as the International Decade for the Rapprochement of Cultures,

*Deeply concerned* about continuing incidents of intolerance, discrimination and violence against persons based on their religion or belief in all regions of the world,

*Deploing* any advocacy of discrimination or violence on the basis of religion or belief,

*Strongly deploring* all acts of violence against persons on the basis of their religion or belief, as well as any such acts directed against their homes, businesses, properties, schools, cultural centres or places of worship,

*Strongly deploring also* all attacks on and in religious places, sites and shrines, which are in violation of international law, in particular human rights law and international humanitarian law, including any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments,

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<sup>362</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/66/53)*, chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>363</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53 and corrigendum (A/67/53 and A/67/53/Corr.1)*, chap. III, sect. A.

<sup>364</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/68/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>365</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/70/53)*, chap. III, sect. A.

<sup>366</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/71/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>367</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/72/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>368</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/73/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>369</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.



*Deeply concerned* about the prevalence of impunity in some instances, and the lack of accountability in some cases, in addressing violence against persons on the basis of religion or belief in public and private spheres, and stressing the importance of making the necessary efforts to raise awareness to address the spread of hate speech against persons on the basis of religion or belief,

*Concerned* about actions that wilfully exploit tensions or target individuals on the basis of their religion or belief, in particular actions that seek to prevent their exercise and full enjoyment of freedom of religion or belief,

*Expressing deep concern* at the instances of intolerance and discrimination and acts of violence occurring in the world, including cases motivated by discrimination against persons belonging to religious minorities, in addition to the negative projection of the followers of religions and the enforcement of measures that specifically discriminate against persons on the basis of religion or belief,

*Expressing concern* at the growing manifestations of intolerance based on religion or belief, which can generate hatred and violence among individuals from and within different nations and which may have serious implications at the national, regional and international levels, and in this regard emphasizing the importance of respect for religious and cultural diversity, as well as interreligious, interfaith and intercultural dialogue aimed at promoting a culture of tolerance and respect among individuals, societies and nations,

*Recognizing* the valuable contribution of people of all religions or beliefs to humanity and the contribution that dialogue among religious groups can make towards an improved awareness and understanding of the common values shared by all humankind,

*Underlining* the fact that States, regional organizations, national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies and the media have an important role to play in promoting tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity and in the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including freedom of religion or belief,

*Underlining also* the importance of raising awareness about different cultures and religions or beliefs and of education in the promotion of tolerance, which involves the acceptance by the public of and its respect for religious and cultural diversity, including with regard to religious expression, and underlining further the fact that education, in particular at school, should contribute in a meaningful way to promoting tolerance and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

*Underlining further* that educational measures, youth forums, strategic plans and public information and media campaigns, including online platforms, may contribute in a meaningful way to promoting tolerance and the elimination of negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons, based on religion or belief,

*Recognizing* that working together to enhance the implementation of existing legal regimes that protect individuals against discrimination and hate crimes, increasing interreligious, interfaith and intercultural efforts and expanding human rights education are important first steps in combating incidents of intolerance, discrimination and violence against individuals on the basis of religion or belief,

*Recalling* its resolution [72/241](#), entitled “A world against violence and violent extremism”, adopted by consensus on 20 December 2017, welcoming the leading role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in promoting intercultural dialogue, the work of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, the work of the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures in Alexandria, Egypt, and the work of the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue in Vienna, and recalling also its resolution [65/5](#) of 20 October 2010 on World Interfaith Harmony Week, proposed by King Abdullah II of Jordan,

*Welcoming* in this regard all international, regional and national initiatives aimed at promoting interreligious, intercultural and interfaith harmony and combating discrimination against individuals on the basis of religion or belief, noting the initiative of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide on the role of religious leaders in preventing incitement that could lead to atrocity crimes and the declaration of its forum held in Fez, Morocco, on 23 and 24 April 2015, the Istanbul Process for Combating Intolerance, Discrimination and Incitement to Hatred and/or Violence on the Basis of Religion or Belief, the announcement on 6 October 2016 of the establishment by the United Arab Emirates of the International Institute for Tolerance for promoting the value of tolerance among nations, the Amman Declaration on Youth, Peace and Security adopted on 22 August 2015 and the

fifth Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, held in Astana on 10 and 11 June 2015, and taking note of the initiative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and its outcome document, the Rabat Plan of Action on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, adopted in Rabat on 5 October 2012,<sup>370</sup>

*Taking note with appreciation* of the continuation of the organization of workshops and meetings within the framework of the Istanbul Process and the promotion of effective implementation of Human Rights Council resolution 16/18 to counter global violence, religious discrimination and intolerance, in particular the sixth implementation meeting of the Process, hosted by Singapore on 20 and 21 July 2016,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>371</sup>
2. *Expresses deep concern* at the continued serious instances of derogatory stereotyping, negative profiling and stigmatization of persons based on their religion or belief, as well as programmes and agendas pursued by extremist individuals, organizations and groups aimed at creating and perpetuating negative stereotypes about religious groups, in particular when condoned by Governments;
3. *Expresses concern* that the number of incidents of religious intolerance, discrimination and related violence, as well as of negative stereotyping of individuals on the basis of religion or belief, continues to rise around the world, which may have serious implications at the national, regional and international levels, condemns, in this context, any advocacy of religious hatred against individuals that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, and urges States to take effective measures, as set forth in the present resolution and consistent with their obligations under international human rights law, to address and combat such incidents;
4. *Condemns* any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audiovisual or electronic media or any other means;
5. *Recognizes* that the open public debate of ideas, as well as interreligious, interfaith and intercultural dialogue, at the local, national and international levels, can be among the best protections against religious intolerance and can play a positive role in strengthening democracy and combating religious hatred, and expresses its conviction that a continuing dialogue on these issues can help to overcome existing misperceptions;
6. *Also recognizes* the strong need for global awareness about the possible serious implications of incitement to discrimination and violence, which may have serious implications at the national, regional and international levels, and urges all Member States to make renewed efforts to develop educational systems that promote all human rights and fundamental freedoms that enhance tolerance for religious and cultural diversity, which is fundamental to promoting tolerant, peaceful and harmonious multicultural societies;
7. *Calls upon* all States to take the following actions, as called for by the Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, to foster a domestic environment of religious tolerance, peace and respect by:
  - (a) Encouraging the creation of collaborative networks to build mutual understanding, promoting dialogue and inspiring constructive action towards shared policy goals and the pursuit of tangible outcomes, such as servicing projects in the fields of education, health, conflict prevention, employment, integration and media education;
  - (b) Creating an appropriate mechanism within Governments to, inter alia, identify and address potential areas of tension between members of different religious communities and assisting with conflict prevention and mediation;
  - (c) Encouraging the training of government officials in effective outreach strategies;
  - (d) Encouraging the efforts of leaders to discuss within their communities the causes of discrimination and developing strategies to counter those causes;
  - (e) Speaking out against intolerance, including advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence;
  - (f) Adopting measures to criminalize incitement to imminent violence based on religion or belief;

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<sup>370</sup> A/HRC/22/17/Add.4, appendix.

<sup>371</sup> A/73/153.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

(g) Understanding the need to combat denigration and the negative religious stereotyping of persons, as well as incitement to religious hatred, by strategizing and harmonizing actions at the local, national, regional and international levels through, inter alia, education and awareness-raising;

(h) Recognizing that the open, constructive and respectful debate of ideas, as well as interreligious, interfaith and intercultural dialogue, at the local, national, regional and international levels, can play a positive role in combating religious hatred, incitement and violence;

8. *Also calls upon* all States:

(a) To take effective measures to ensure that public functionaries, in the conduct of their public duties, do not discriminate against individuals on the basis of religion or belief;

(b) To foster religious freedom and pluralism by promoting the ability of members of all religious communities to manifest their religion and to contribute openly and on an equal footing to society;

(c) To encourage the representation and meaningful participation of individuals, irrespective of their religion or belief, in all sectors of society;

(d) To make a strong effort to counter religious profiling, which is understood to be the invidious use of religion as a criterion in conducting questioning, searches and other investigative law enforcement procedures;

9. *Further calls upon* all States to adopt measures and policies to promote full respect for and protection of places of worship and religious sites, cemeteries and shrines and to take protective measures in cases where they are vulnerable to vandalism or destruction;

10. *Calls for* strengthened international efforts to foster a global dialogue for the promotion of a culture of tolerance and peace at all levels, based on respect for human rights and diversity of religions and beliefs;

11. *Encourages* all States to consider providing updates on efforts made in this regard as part of ongoing reporting to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and in this respect requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to include those updates in her reports to the Human Rights Council;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report that includes information provided by the High Commissioner on steps taken by States to combat intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons, based on religion or belief, as set forth in the present resolution.

### RESOLUTION 73/165

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/589/Add.2](#), para. 162),<sup>372</sup> by a recorded vote of 121 to 8, with 54 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste,

<sup>372</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Mongolia, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Guatemala, Hungary, Israel, New Zealand, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, Vanuatu

### 73/165. United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas

*The General Assembly,*

*Welcoming* the adoption by the Human Rights Council, in its resolution [39/12](#) of 28 September 2018,<sup>373</sup> of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas,

1. *Adopts* the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas, as contained in the annex to the present resolution;
2. *Invites* Governments, agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to disseminate the Declaration and to promote universal respect and understanding thereof;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include the text of the Declaration in the next edition of *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments*.

#### Annex

#### United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the principles proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations, which recognize the inherent dignity and worth and the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family as the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

*Taking into account* the principles proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>374</sup> the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,<sup>375</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>376</sup> the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>376</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>377</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>378</sup> the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,<sup>379</sup> relevant conventions of the International Labour Organization and other relevant international instruments that have been adopted at the universal or regional level,

*Reaffirming* the Declaration on the Right to Development,<sup>380</sup> and that the right to development is an inalienable human right by virtue of which every human person and all peoples are entitled to participate in, contribute to and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development, in which all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realized,

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<sup>373</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/73/53/Add.1)*, chap. II.

<sup>374</sup> Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

<sup>375</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

<sup>376</sup> See resolution [2200 A \(XXI\)](#), annex.

<sup>377</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>378</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>379</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

<sup>380</sup> Resolution [41/128](#), annex.

*Reaffirming also* the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,<sup>381</sup>

*Reaffirming further* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing and must be treated in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and recalling that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt States from the promotion and protection of the other rights,

*Recognizing* the special relationship and interaction between peasants and other people working in rural areas and the land, water and nature to which they are attached and on which they depend for their livelihood,

*Recognizing also* the past, present and future contributions of peasants and other people working in rural areas in all regions of the world to development and to conserving and improving biodiversity, which constitute the basis of food and agricultural production throughout the world, and their contribution in ensuring the right to adequate food and food security, which are fundamental to attaining the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>382</sup>

*Concerned* that peasants and other people working in rural areas suffer disproportionately from poverty, hunger and malnutrition,

*Concerned also* that peasants and other people working in rural areas suffer from the burdens caused by environmental degradation and climate change,

*Concerned further* about peasants ageing around the world and youth increasingly migrating to urban areas and turning their backs on agriculture owing to the lack of incentives and the drudgery of rural life, and recognizing the need to improve the economic diversification of rural areas and the creation of non-farm opportunities, especially for rural youth,

*Alarmed* by the increasing number of peasants and other people working in rural areas forcibly evicted or displaced every year,

*Alarmed also* by the high incidence of suicide of peasants in several countries,

*Stressing* that peasant women and other rural women play a significant role in the economic survival of their families and in contributing to the rural and national economy, including through their work in the non-monetized sectors of the economy, but are often denied tenure and ownership of land, equal access to land, productive resources, financial services, information, employment or social protection, and are often victims of violence and discrimination in a variety of forms and manifestations,

*Stressing also* the importance of promoting and protecting the rights of the child in rural areas, including through the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition, the promotion of quality education and health, protection from exposure to chemicals and wastes, and the elimination of child labour, in accordance with relevant human rights obligations,

*Stressing further* that several factors make it difficult for peasants and other people working in rural areas, including small-scale fishers and fish workers, pastoralists, foresters and other local communities, to make their voices heard, to defend their human rights and tenure rights, and to secure the sustainable use of the natural resources on which they depend,

*Recognizing* that access to land, water, seeds and other natural resources is an increasing challenge for rural people, and stressing the importance of improving access to productive resources and investment in appropriate rural development,

*Convinced* that peasants and other people working in rural areas should be supported in their efforts to promote and undertake sustainable practices of agricultural production that support and are in harmony with nature, also referred to as Mother Earth in a number of countries and regions, including by respecting the biological and natural ability of ecosystems to adapt and regenerate through natural processes and cycles,

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<sup>381</sup> Resolution 61/295, annex.

<sup>382</sup> Resolution 70/1.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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*Considering* the hazardous and exploitative conditions that exist in many parts of the world under which many peasants and other people working in rural areas have to work, often denied the opportunity to exercise their fundamental rights at work and lacking living wages and social protection,

*Concerned* that individuals, groups and institutions that promote and protect the human rights of those working on land and natural resources issues face a high risk of being subjected to different forms of intimidation and of violations of their physical integrity,

*Noting* that peasants and other people working in rural areas often face difficulties in gaining access to courts, police officers, prosecutors and lawyers to the extent that they are unable to seek immediate redress or protection from violence, abuse and exploitation,

*Concerned* about speculation on food products, the increasing concentration and unbalanced distribution of food systems and the uneven power relations along the value chains, which impair the enjoyment of human rights,

*Reaffirming* that the right to development is an inalienable human right by virtue of which every human person and all peoples are entitled to participate in, contribute to and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development, in which all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realized,

*Recalling* the right of peoples to exercise, subject to the relevant provisions of both International Covenants on Human Rights,<sup>376</sup> full and complete sovereignty over all their natural wealth and resources,

*Recognizing* that the concept of food sovereignty has been used in many States and regions to designate the right to define their food and agriculture systems and the right to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods that respect human rights,

*Realizing* that the individual, having duties to other individuals and to the community to which he or she belongs, is under a responsibility to strive for the promotion and observance of the rights recognized in the present Declaration and in national law,

*Reaffirming* the importance of respecting the diversity of cultures and of promoting tolerance, dialogue and cooperation,

*Recalling* the extensive body of conventions and recommendations of the International Labour Organization on labour protection and decent work,

*Recalling also* the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>383</sup> and the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>384</sup>

*Recalling further* the extensive work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Committee on World Food Security on the right to food, tenure rights, access to natural resources and other rights of peasants, in particular the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture,<sup>385</sup> and the Organization's Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,<sup>386</sup> the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication and the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security,<sup>387</sup>

*Recalling* the outcome of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, and the Peasants' Charter adopted thereat, in which the need for the formulation of appropriate national strategies for agrarian reform and rural development, and their integration with overall national development strategies, was emphasized,

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<sup>383</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>384</sup> United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex, decision X/1.

<sup>385</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2400, No. 43345.

<sup>386</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document CL 144/9 (C 2013/20), appendix D.

<sup>387</sup> [E/CN.4/2005/131](#), annex.



*Reaffirming* that the present Declaration and relevant international agreements shall be mutually supportive with a view to enhancing the protection of human rights,

*Determined* to take new steps forward in the commitment of the international community with a view to achieving substantial progress in human rights endeavours by an increased and sustained effort of international cooperation and solidarity,

*Convinced* of the need for greater protection of the human rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, and for a coherent interpretation and application of existing international human rights norms and standards in this matter,

*Declares* the following:

#### **Article 1**

1. For the purposes of the present Declaration, a peasant is any person who engages or who seeks to engage, alone, or in association with others or as a community, in small-scale agricultural production for subsistence and/or for the market, and who relies significantly, though not necessarily exclusively, on family or household labour and other non-monetized ways of organizing labour, and who has a special dependency on and attachment to the land.
2. The present Declaration applies to any person engaged in artisanal or small-scale agriculture, crop planting, livestock raising, pastoralism, fishing, forestry, hunting or gathering, and handicrafts related to agriculture or a related occupation in a rural area. It also applies to dependent family members of peasants.
3. The present Declaration also applies to indigenous peoples and local communities working on the land, transhumant, nomadic and semi-nomadic communities, and the landless engaged in the above-mentioned activities.
4. The present Declaration further applies to hired workers, including all migrant workers regardless of their migration status, and seasonal workers, on plantations, agricultural farms, forests and farms in aquaculture and in agro-industrial enterprises.

#### **Article 2**

1. States shall respect, protect and fulfil the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas. They shall promptly take legislative, administrative and other appropriate steps to achieve progressively the full realization of the rights set forth in the present Declaration that cannot be immediately guaranteed.
2. Particular attention shall be paid in the implementation of the present Declaration to the rights and special needs of peasants and other people working in rural areas, including older persons, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities, taking into account the need to address multiple forms of discrimination.
3. Without disregarding specific legislation on indigenous peoples, before adopting and implementing legislation and policies, international agreements and other decision-making processes that may affect the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with peasants and other people working in rural areas through their own representative institutions, engaging with and seeking the support of peasants and other people working in rural areas who could be affected by decisions before those decisions are made, and responding to their contributions, taking into consideration existing power imbalances between different parties and ensuring active, free, effective, meaningful and informed participation of individuals and groups in associated decision-making processes.
4. States shall elaborate, interpret and apply relevant international agreements and standards to which they are a party in a manner consistent with their human rights obligations as applicable to peasants and other people working in rural areas.
5. States shall take all necessary measures to ensure that non-State actors that they are in a position to regulate, such as private individuals and organizations, and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, respect and strengthen the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas.
6. States, recognizing the importance of international cooperation in support of national efforts for the realization of the purposes and objectives of the present Declaration, shall take appropriate and effective measures in this regard,

between and among States and, as appropriate, in partnership with relevant international and regional organizations and civil society, in particular organizations of peasants and other people working in rural areas, among others. Such measures could include:

- (a) Ensuring that relevant international cooperation, including international development programmes, is inclusive, accessible and pertinent to peasants and other people working in rural areas;
- (b) Facilitating and supporting capacity-building, including through the exchange and sharing of information, experiences, training programmes and best practices;
- (c) Facilitating cooperation in research and in access to scientific and technical knowledge;
- (d) Providing, as appropriate, technical and economic assistance, facilitating access to and sharing of accessible technologies, and through the transfer of technologies, particularly to developing countries, on mutually agreed terms;
- (e) Improving the functioning of markets at the global level and facilitating timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help to limit extreme food price volatility and the attractiveness of speculation.

### Article 3

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms recognized in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>374</sup> and all other international human rights instruments, free from any kind of discrimination in the exercise of their rights based on any grounds such as origin, nationality, race, colour, descent, sex, language, culture, marital status, property, disability, age, political or other opinion, religion, birth or economic, social or other status.
2. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies to exercise their right to development.
3. States shall take appropriate measures to eliminate conditions that cause or help to perpetuate discrimination, including multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, against peasants and other people working in rural areas.

### Article 4

1. States shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against peasant women and other women working in rural areas and to promote their empowerment in order to ensure, on the basis of equality between men and women, that they fully and equally enjoy all human rights and fundamental freedoms and that they are able to freely pursue, participate in and benefit from rural economic, social, political and cultural development.
2. States shall ensure that peasant women and other women working in rural areas enjoy without discrimination all the human rights and fundamental freedoms set out in the present Declaration and in other international human rights instruments, including the rights:
  - (a) To participate equally and effectively in the formulation and implementation of development planning at all levels;
  - (b) To have equal access to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including adequate health-care facilities, information, counselling and services in family planning;
  - (c) To benefit directly from social security programmes;
  - (d) To receive all types of training and education, whether formal or non-formal, including training and education relating to functional literacy, and to benefit from all community and extension services in order to increase their technical proficiency;
  - (e) To organize self-help groups, associations and cooperatives in order to obtain equal access to economic opportunities through employment or self-employment;
  - (f) To participate in all community activities;
  - (g) To have equal access to financial services, agricultural credit and loans, marketing facilities and appropriate technology;

- (h) To equal access to, use of and management of land and natural resources, and to equal or priority treatment in land and agrarian reform and in land resettlement schemes;
- (i) To decent employment, equal remuneration and social protection benefits, and to have access to income-generating activities;
- (j) To be free from all forms of violence.

#### Article 5

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to have access to and to use in a sustainable manner the natural resources present in their communities that are required to enjoy adequate living conditions, in accordance with article 28 of the present Declaration. They also have the right to participate in the management of these resources.
2. States shall take measures to ensure that any exploitation affecting the natural resources that peasants and other people working in rural areas traditionally hold or use is permitted based on, but not limited to:
  - (a) A duly conducted social and environmental impact assessment;
  - (b) Consultations in good faith, in accordance with article 2 (3) of the present Declaration;
  - (c) Modalities for the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits of such exploitation that have been established on mutually agreed terms between those exploiting the natural resources and the peasants and other people working in rural areas.

#### Article 6

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to life, physical and mental integrity, liberty and security of person.
2. Peasants and other people working in rural areas shall not be subjected to arbitrary arrest or detention, torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and shall not be held in slavery or servitude.

#### Article 7

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to recognition everywhere as persons before the law.
2. States shall take appropriate measures to facilitate the freedom of movement of peasants and other people working in rural areas.
3. States shall, where required, take appropriate measures to cooperate with a view to addressing transboundary tenure issues affecting peasants and other people working in rural areas that cross international boundaries, in accordance with article 28 of the present Declaration.

#### Article 8

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to freedom of thought, belief, conscience, religion, opinion, expression and peaceful assembly. They have the right to express their opinion, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any other media of their choice, at the local, regional, national and international levels.
2. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right, individually and/or collectively, in association with others or as a community, to participate in peaceful activities against violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms.
3. The exercise of the rights provided for in the present article carries with it special duties and responsibilities. It may therefore be subject to certain restrictions, but these shall only be such as are provided for by law and are necessary:
  - (a) For respect of the rights or reputations of others;
  - (b) For the protection of national security or of public order (*ordre public*), or of public health or morals.

4. States shall take all necessary measures to ensure protection by the competent authorities of everyone, individually and in association with others, against any violence, threat, retaliation, de jure or de facto discrimination, pressure or any other arbitrary action as a consequence of his or her legitimate exercise and defence of the rights described in the present Declaration.

#### Article 9

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to form and join organizations, trade unions, cooperatives or any other organization or association of their own choosing for the protection of their interests, and to bargain collectively. Such organizations shall be independent and voluntary in character, and remain free from all interference, coercion or repression.

2. No restrictions may be placed on the exercise of this right other than those which are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security or public safety, public order (*ordre public*), the protection of public health or morals or the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

3. States shall take appropriate measures to encourage the establishment of organizations of peasants and other people working in rural areas, including unions, cooperatives or other organizations, particularly with a view to eliminating obstacles to their establishment, growth and pursuit of lawful activities, including any legislative or administrative discrimination against such organizations and their members, and provide them with support to strengthen their position when negotiating contractual arrangements in order to ensure that conditions and prices are fair and stable and do not violate their rights to dignity and to a decent life.

#### Article 10

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to active and free participation, directly and/or through their representative organizations, in the preparation and implementation of policies, programmes and projects that may affect their lives, land and livelihoods.

2. States shall promote the participation, directly and/or through their representative organizations, of peasants and other people working in rural areas in decision-making processes that may affect their lives, land and livelihoods; this includes respecting the establishment and growth of strong and independent organizations of peasants and other people working in rural areas and promoting their participation in the preparation and implementation of food safety, labour and environmental standards that may affect them.

#### Article 11

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to seek, receive, develop and impart information, including information about factors that may affect the production, processing, marketing and distribution of their products.

2. States shall take appropriate measures to ensure that peasants and other people working in rural areas have access to relevant, transparent, timely and adequate information in a language and form and through means adequate to their cultural methods so as to promote their empowerment and to ensure their effective participation in decision-making in matters that may affect their lives, land and livelihoods.

3. States shall take appropriate measures to promote the access of peasants and other people working in rural areas to a fair, impartial and appropriate system of evaluation and certification of the quality of their products at the local, national and international levels, and to promote their participation in its formulation.

#### Article 12

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to effective and non-discriminatory access to justice, including access to fair procedures for the resolution of disputes and to effective remedies for all infringements of their human rights. Such decisions shall give due consideration to their customs, traditions, rules and legal systems in conformity with relevant obligations under international human rights law.

2. States shall provide for non-discriminatory access, through impartial and competent judicial and administrative bodies, to timely, affordable and effective means of resolving disputes in the language of the persons concerned, and shall provide effective and prompt remedies, which may include a right of appeal, restitution, indemnity, compensation and reparation.
3. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to legal assistance. States shall consider additional measures, including legal aid, to support peasants and other people working in rural areas who would otherwise not have access to administrative and judicial services.
4. States shall consider measures to strengthen relevant national institutions for the promotion and protection of all human rights, including the rights described in the present Declaration.
5. States shall provide peasants and other people working in rural areas with effective mechanisms for the prevention of and redress for any action that has the aim or effect of violating their human rights, arbitrarily dispossessing them of their land and natural resources or of depriving them of their means of subsistence and integrity, and for any form of forced sedentarization or population displacement.

#### **Article 13**

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to work, which includes the right to choose freely the way they earn their living.
2. Children of peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to be protected from any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to a child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.
3. States shall create an enabling environment with opportunities for work for peasants and other people working in rural areas and their families that provide remuneration allowing for an adequate standard of living.
4. In States facing high levels of rural poverty and in the absence of employment opportunities in other sectors, States shall take appropriate measures to establish and promote sustainable food systems that are sufficiently labour-intensive to contribute to the creation of decent employment.
5. States, taking into account the specific characteristics of peasant agriculture and small-scale fisheries, shall monitor compliance with labour legislation by allocating, where required, appropriate resources to ensure the effective operation of labour inspectorates in rural areas.
6. No one shall be required to perform forced, bonded or compulsory labour, be subjected to the risk of becoming a victim of human trafficking or be held in any other form of contemporary slavery. States shall, in consultation and cooperation with peasants and other people working in rural areas and their representative organizations, take appropriate measures to protect them from economic exploitation, child labour and all forms of contemporary slavery, such as debt bondage of women, men and children, and forced labour, including of fishers and fish workers, forest workers, or seasonal or migrant workers.

#### **Article 14**

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas, irrespective of whether they are temporary, seasonal or migrant workers, have the rights to work in safe and healthy working conditions, to participate in the application and review of safety and health measures, to select safety and health representatives and representatives in safety and health committees, to the implementation of measures to prevent, reduce and control hazards and risks, to have access to adequate and appropriate protective clothing and equipment and to adequate information and training on occupational safety, to work free from violence and harassment, including sexual harassment, to report unsafe and unhealthy working conditions and to remove themselves from danger resulting from their work activity when they reasonably believe that there is an imminent and serious risk to their safety or health, without being subjected to any work-related retaliation for exercising such rights.
2. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right not to use or to be exposed to hazardous substances or toxic chemicals, including agrochemicals or agricultural or industrial pollutants.
3. States shall take appropriate measures to ensure favourable safe and healthy working conditions for peasants and other people working in rural areas, and shall in particular designate appropriate competent authorities responsible

and establish mechanisms for intersectoral coordination for the implementation of policies and enforcement of national laws and regulations on occupational safety and health in agriculture, the agro-industry and fisheries, provide for corrective measures and appropriate penalties, and establish and support adequate and appropriate systems of inspection for rural workplaces.

4. States shall take all measures necessary to ensure:

(a) The prevention of risks to health and safety derived from technologies, chemicals and agricultural practices, including through their prohibition and restriction;

(b) An appropriate national system or any other system approved by the competent authority establishing specific criteria for the importation, classification, packaging, distribution, labelling and use of chemicals used in agriculture, and for their prohibition or restriction;

(c) That those who produce, import, provide, sell, transfer, store or dispose of chemicals used in agriculture comply with national or other recognized safety and health standards, and provide adequate and appropriate information to users in the appropriate official language or languages of the country and, on request, to the competent authority;

(d) That there is a suitable system for the safe collection, recycling and disposal of chemical waste, obsolete chemicals and empty containers of chemicals so as to avoid their use for other purposes and to eliminate or minimize the risks to safety and health and to the environment;

(e) The development and implementation of educational and public awareness programmes on the health and environmental effects of chemicals commonly used in rural areas, and on alternatives to them.

#### **Article 15**

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to adequate food and the fundamental right to be free from hunger. This includes the right to produce food and the right to adequate nutrition, which guarantee the possibility of enjoying the highest degree of physical, emotional and intellectual development.

2. States shall ensure that peasants and other people working in rural areas enjoy physical and economic access at all times to sufficient and adequate food that is produced and consumed sustainably and equitably, respecting their cultures, preserving access to food for future generations, and that ensures a physically and mentally fulfilling and dignified life for them, individually and/or collectively, responding to their needs.

3. States shall take appropriate measures to combat malnutrition in rural children, including within the framework of primary health care through, inter alia, the application of readily available technology and the provision of adequate nutritious food and by ensuring that women have adequate nutrition during pregnancy and lactation. States shall also ensure that all segments of society, in particular parents and children, are informed, have access to nutritional education and are supported in the use of basic knowledge on child nutrition and the advantages of breastfeeding.

4. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to determine their own food and agriculture systems, recognized by many States and regions as the right to food sovereignty. This includes the right to participate in decision-making processes on food and agriculture policy and the right to healthy and adequate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods that respect their cultures.

5. States shall formulate, in partnership with peasants and other people working in rural areas, public policies at the local, national, regional and international levels to advance and protect the right to adequate food, food security and food sovereignty and sustainable and equitable food systems that promote and protect the rights contained in the present Declaration. States shall establish mechanisms to ensure the coherence of their agricultural, economic, social, cultural and development policies with the realization of the rights contained in the present Declaration.

#### **Article 16**

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to an adequate standard of living for themselves and their families and to facilitated access to the means of production necessary to achieve them, including production



tools, technical assistance, credit, insurance and other financial services. They also have the right to engage freely, individually and/or collectively, in association with others or as a community, in traditional ways of farming, fishing, livestock rearing and forestry and to develop community-based commercialization systems.

2. States shall take appropriate measures to favour the access of peasants and other people working in rural areas to the means of transportation and the processing, drying and storage facilities necessary for selling their products on local, national and regional markets at prices that guarantee them a decent income and livelihood.

3. States shall take appropriate measures to strengthen and support local, national and regional markets in ways that facilitate and ensure that peasants and other people working in rural areas have full and equitable access and participation in these markets to sell their products at prices that allow them and their families to attain an adequate standard of living.

4. States shall take all appropriate measures to ensure that their rural development, agricultural, environmental, trade and investment policies and programmes contribute effectively to protecting and strengthening local livelihood options and to the transition to sustainable modes of agricultural production. States shall stimulate sustainable production, including agroecological and organic production, whenever possible, and facilitate direct farmer-to-consumer sales.

5. States shall take appropriate measures to strengthen the resilience of peasants and other people working in rural areas against natural disasters and other severe disruptions, such as market failures.

6. States shall take appropriate measures to ensure fair wages and equal remuneration for work of equal value, without distinction of any kind.

#### **Article 17**

1. Peasants and other people living in rural areas have the right to land, individually and/or collectively, in accordance with article 28 of the present Declaration, including the right to have access to, sustainably use and manage land and the water bodies, coastal seas, fisheries, pastures and forests therein, to achieve an adequate standard of living, to have a place to live in security, peace and dignity and to develop their cultures.

2. States shall take appropriate measures to remove and prohibit all forms of discrimination relating to the right to land, including those resulting from change of marital status, lack of legal capacity or lack of access to economic resources.

3. States shall take appropriate measures to provide legal recognition for land tenure rights, including customary land tenure rights not currently protected by law, recognizing the existence of different models and systems. States shall protect legitimate tenure and ensure that peasants and other people working in rural areas are not arbitrarily or unlawfully evicted and that their rights are not otherwise extinguished or infringed. States shall recognize and protect the natural commons and their related systems of collective use and management.

4. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to be protected against arbitrary and unlawful displacement from their land or place of habitual residence, or from other natural resources used in their activities and necessary for the enjoyment of adequate living conditions. States shall incorporate protections against displacement into domestic legislation that are consistent with international human rights and humanitarian law. States shall prohibit arbitrary and unlawful forced eviction, the destruction of agricultural areas and the confiscation or expropriation of land and other natural resources, including as a punitive measure or as a means or method of war.

5. Peasants and other people working in rural areas who have been arbitrarily or unlawfully deprived of their lands have the right, individually and/or collectively, in association with others or as a community, to return to their land of which they were arbitrarily or unlawfully deprived, including in cases of natural disasters and/or armed conflict, and to have restored their access to the natural resources used in their activities and necessary for the enjoyment of adequate living conditions, whenever possible, or to receive just, fair and lawful compensation when their return is not possible.

6. Where appropriate, States shall take appropriate measures to carry out agrarian reforms in order to facilitate the broad and equitable access to land and other natural resources necessary to ensure that peasants and other people

working in rural areas enjoy adequate living conditions, and to limit excessive concentration and control of land, taking into account its social function. Landless peasants, young people, small-scale fishers and other rural workers should be given priority in the allocation of public lands, fisheries and forests.

7. States shall take measures aimed at the conservation and sustainable use of land and other natural resources used in their production, including through agroecology, and ensure the conditions for the regeneration of biological and other natural capacities and cycles.

#### **Article 18**

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to the conservation and protection of the environment and the productive capacity of their lands, and of the resources that they use and manage.

2. States shall take appropriate measures to ensure that peasants and other people working in rural areas enjoy, without discrimination, a safe, clean and healthy environment.

3. States shall comply with their respective international obligations to combat climate change. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to contribute to the design and implementation of national and local climate change adaptation and mitigation policies, including through the use of practices and traditional knowledge.

4. States shall take effective measures to ensure that no hazardous material, substance or waste is stored or disposed of on the land of peasants and other people working in rural areas, and shall cooperate to address the threats to the enjoyment of their rights that result from transboundary environmental harm.

5. States shall protect peasants and other people working in rural areas against abuses by non-State actors, including by enforcing environmental laws that contribute, directly or indirectly, to the protection of the rights of peasants or other people working in rural areas.

#### **Article 19**

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to seeds, in accordance with article 28 of the present Declaration, including:

(a) The right to the protection of traditional knowledge relevant to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture;

(b) The right to equitably participate in sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture;

(c) The right to participate in the making of decisions on matters relating to the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture;

(d) The right to save, use, exchange and sell their farm-saved seed or propagating material.

2. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their own seeds and traditional knowledge.

3. States shall take measures to respect, protect and fulfil the right to seeds of peasants and other people working in rural areas.

4. States shall ensure that seeds of sufficient quality and quantity are available to peasants at the most suitable time for planting and at an affordable price.

5. States shall recognize the rights of peasants to rely either on their own seeds or on other locally available seeds of their choice and to decide on the crops and species that they wish to grow.

6. States shall take appropriate measures to support peasant seed systems and promote the use of peasant seeds and agrobiodiversity.

7. States shall take appropriate measures to ensure that agricultural research and development integrates the needs of peasants and other people working in rural areas and to ensure their active participation in the definition of priorities

and the undertaking of research and development, taking into account their experience, and increase investment in research and the development of orphan crops and seeds that respond to the needs of peasants and other people working in rural areas.

8. States shall ensure that seed policies, plant variety protection and other intellectual property laws, certification schemes and seed marketing laws respect and take into account the rights, needs and realities of peasants and other people working in rural areas.

#### **Article 20**

1. States shall take appropriate measures, in accordance with their relevant international obligations, to prevent the depletion and ensure the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in order to promote and protect the full enjoyment of the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas.

2. States shall take appropriate measures to promote and protect the traditional knowledge, innovation and practices of peasants and other people working in rural areas, including traditional agrarian, pastoral, forestry, fisheries, livestock and agroecological systems relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

3. States shall prevent risks of violation of the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas arising from the development, handling, transport, use, transfer or release of any living modified organisms.

#### **Article 21**

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the human rights to safe and clean drinking water and to sanitation, which are essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights and human dignity. These rights include water supply systems and sanitation facilities that are of good quality, affordable and physically accessible, and non-discriminatory and acceptable in cultural and gender terms.

2. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to water for personal and domestic use, farming, fishing and livestock keeping and for securing other water-related livelihoods, ensuring the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of water. They have the right to equitable access to water and water management systems, and to be free from arbitrary disconnections or the contamination of water supplies.

3. States shall respect, protect and ensure access to water, including in customary and community-based water management systems, on a non-discriminatory basis, and shall take measures to guarantee affordable water for personal, domestic and productive uses, and improved sanitation, in particular for rural women and girls and persons belonging to disadvantaged or marginalized groups, such as nomadic pastoralists, workers on plantations, all migrants regardless of their migration status and persons living in irregular or informal settlements. States shall promote appropriate and affordable technologies, including irrigation technology, and technologies for the reuse of treated wastewater and for water collection and storage.

4. States shall protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes, from overuse and contamination by harmful substances, in particular by industrial effluent and concentrated minerals and chemicals that result in slow and fast poisoning.

5. States shall prevent third parties from impairing the enjoyment of the right to water of peasants and other people working in rural areas. States shall prioritize water for human needs before other uses, promoting its conservation, restoration and sustainable use.

#### **Article 22**

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to social security, including social insurance.

2. States shall, according to their national circumstances, take appropriate steps to promote the enjoyment of the right to social security of all migrant workers in rural areas.

3. States shall recognize the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas to social security, including social insurance, and, in accordance with national circumstances, should establish or maintain their social protection floors comprising basic social security guarantees. The guarantees should ensure at a minimum that, over the life cycle, all in need have access to essential health care and to basic income security, which together secure effective access to goods and services defined as necessary at the national level.

4. Basic social security guarantees should be established by law. Impartial, transparent, effective, accessible and affordable grievance and appeal procedures should also be specified. Systems should be in place to enhance compliance with national legal frameworks.

#### **Article 23**

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. They also have the right to have access, without any discrimination, to all social and health services.

2. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to use and protect their traditional medicines and to maintain their health practices, including access to and conservation of their plants, animals and minerals for medicinal use.

3. States shall guarantee access to health facilities, goods and services in rural areas on a non-discriminatory basis, especially for groups in vulnerable situations, access to essential medicines, immunization against major infectious diseases, reproductive health, information concerning the main health problems affecting the community, including methods of preventing and controlling them, maternal and child health care, as well as training for health personnel, including education on health and human rights.

#### **Article 24**

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to adequate housing. They have the right to sustain a secure home and community in which to live in peace and dignity, and the right to non-discrimination in this context.

2. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to be protected against forced eviction from their home, harassment and other threats.

3. States shall not, arbitrarily or unlawfully, either temporarily or permanently, remove peasants or other people working in rural areas against their will from the homes or land that they occupy without providing or affording access to appropriate forms of legal or other protection. When eviction is unavoidable, the State must provide or ensure fair and just compensation for any material or other losses.

#### **Article 25**

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to adequate training suited to the specific agroecological, sociocultural and economic environments in which they find themselves. Issues covered by training programmes should include, but not be limited to, improving productivity, marketing and the ability to cope with pests, pathogens, system shocks, the effects of chemicals, climate change and weather-related events.

2. All children of peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to education in accordance with their culture and with all the rights contained in human rights instruments.

3. States shall encourage equitable and participatory farmer-scientist partnerships, such as farmer field schools, participatory plant breeding and plant and animal health clinics, to respond more appropriately to the immediate and emerging challenges that peasants and other people working in rural areas face.

4. States shall invest in providing training, market information and advisory services at the farm level.

#### **Article 26**

1. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right to enjoy their own culture and to pursue freely their cultural development, without interference or any form of discrimination. They also have the right to maintain, express, control, protect and develop their traditional and local knowledge, such as ways of life, methods of production or technology, or customs and tradition. No one may invoke cultural rights to infringe upon the human rights guaranteed by international law or to limit their scope.

2. Peasants and other people working in rural areas have the right, individually and/or collectively, in association with others or as a community, to express their local customs, languages, culture, religions, literature and art, in conformity with international human rights standards.

3. States shall respect, and take measures to recognize and protect, the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas relating to their traditional knowledge and eliminate discrimination against the traditional knowledge, practices and technologies of peasants and other people working in rural areas.

#### Article 27

1. The specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, including international and regional financial organizations, shall contribute to the full realization of the present Declaration, including through the mobilization of, inter alia, development assistance and cooperation. Ways and means of ensuring the participation of peasants and other people working in rural areas on issues affecting them shall be considered.

2. The United Nations and its specialized agencies, funds and programmes, and other intergovernmental organizations, including international and regional financial organizations, shall promote respect for and the full application of the present Declaration and follow up on its effectiveness.

#### Article 28

1. Nothing in the present Declaration may be construed as diminishing, impairing or nullifying the rights that peasants and other people working in rural areas and indigenous peoples currently have or may acquire in the future.

2. The human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, without discrimination of any kind, shall be respected in the exercise of the rights enunciated in the present Declaration. The exercise of the rights set forth in the present Declaration shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law and that are compliant with international human rights obligations. Any such limitations shall be non-discriminatory and necessary solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and for meeting the just and most compelling requirements of a democratic society.

### RESOLUTION 73/166

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/589/Add.2](#), para. 162),<sup>388</sup> by a recorded vote of 148 to 11, with 32 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Czechia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Israel, Netherlands, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

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<sup>388</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: China, Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), El Salvador and South Sudan.

**73/166. The right to development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the Charter of the United Nations, which expresses, in particular, the determination to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom and, to that end, to employ international mechanisms for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>389</sup> as well as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights<sup>390</sup> and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>390</sup>

*Recalling also* the outcomes of all the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

*Recalling further* the Declaration on the Right to Development, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986, which confirmed that the right to development is an inalienable human right and that equality of opportunity for development is a prerogative both of nations and of individuals who make up nations, and that the individual is the central subject and beneficiary of development,

*Stressing* the importance of the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna in 1993, and that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action<sup>391</sup> reaffirmed the right to development as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of fundamental human rights and the individual as the central subject and beneficiary of development,

*Reaffirming* the objective of making the right to development a reality for everyone, as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by the General Assembly on 8 September 2000,<sup>392</sup>

*Recognizing* the importance of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>393</sup> reaffirming that the Declaration on the Right to Development informed the 2030 Agenda, along with other relevant international instruments, and underlining the fact that the Sustainable Development Goals can be realized only through a credible, effective and universal commitment to the means of implementation by all stakeholders,

*Recognizing also* the successful conclusion of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, that recognizes that the New Urban Agenda<sup>394</sup> is grounded in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, international human rights treaties, the Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome<sup>395</sup> and is informed by other instruments such as the Declaration on the Right to Development,

*Recalling* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>396</sup>

*Reaffirming* the universality, indivisibility, interrelatedness, interdependence and mutually reinforcing nature of all civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, including the right to development,

*Recalling* the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and its outcome document,<sup>397</sup>

*Deeply concerned* that the majority of indigenous peoples in the world live in conditions of poverty, and recognizing the critical need to address the negative impact of poverty and inequity on indigenous peoples by ensuring their full and effective inclusion in development and poverty eradication programmes,

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<sup>389</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>390</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>391</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

<sup>392</sup> Resolution 55/2.

<sup>393</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>394</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

<sup>395</sup> Resolution 60/1.

<sup>396</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>397</sup> Resolution 69/2.



*Reaffirming* that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing and that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives, and in that context noting that the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms at the national and international levels should be universal and conducted without conditions attached and that the international community should support the strengthening and promotion of democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the entire world,

*Recognizing* that inequality is a major obstacle to the realization of the right to development within and across countries,

*Taking note* of the commitment declared by a number of specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other international organizations to make the right to development a reality for all, and in this regard urging all relevant bodies of the United Nations system and other international organizations to mainstream the right to development into their objectives, policies, programmes and operational activities, as well as into development and development-related processes, including the follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

*Recalling* the outcomes adopted at the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Nairobi from 15 to 19 December 2015,

*Calling for* a successful, development-oriented outcome of the trade negotiations of the World Trade Organization, in particular on the remaining issues of the Doha Development Round, as a contribution to the creation of international conditions permitting the full realization of the right to development,

*Recalling* the outcome of the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Nairobi from 17 to 22 July 2016, on the theme “From decision to action: moving towards an inclusive and equitable global economic environment for trade and development”,<sup>398</sup>

*Recalling also* all its previous resolutions, Human Rights Council resolutions and those of the Commission on Human Rights on the right to development, in particular Commission resolution 1998/72 of 22 April 1998<sup>399</sup> on the urgent need to make further progress towards the realization of the right to development,

*Recalling further* Human Rights Council resolution 35/21 of 22 June 2017 on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights,<sup>400</sup>

*Recalling* the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, and the previous summits and conferences at which the States members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries stressed the need to operationalize the right to development as a priority, including through the elaboration of a convention on the right to development by the relevant machinery, taking into account the recommendations of relevant initiatives,

*Reiterating its continuing support* for the New Partnership for Africa’s Development<sup>401</sup> as a development framework for Africa,

*Deeply concerned* about the negative impacts of the global economic and financial crises on the realization of the right to development,

*Recognizing* that, while development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, the lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights,

*Recognizing also* that Member States should cooperate with one another in ensuring development and eliminating obstacles to development, that the international community should promote effective international cooperation, in particular to revitalize a global partnership for development, for the realization of the right to

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<sup>398</sup> See TD/519, TD/519/Add.1, TD/519/Add.2 and TD/519/Add.2/Corr.1.

<sup>399</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3 (E/1998/23)*, chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>400</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/72/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>401</sup> A/57/304, annex.

development and the elimination of obstacles to development and that lasting progress towards the implementation of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level, as well as equitable economic relations and a favourable economic environment at the international level,

*Recognizing further* that poverty is an affront to human dignity,

*Recognizing* that extreme poverty and hunger are among the greatest global threats and require the collective commitment of the international community for their eradication, pursuant to Millennium Development Goal 1 and Sustainable Development Goals 1 and 2, and therefore calling upon the international community, including the Human Rights Council, to contribute towards achieving that goal,

*Recognizing also* that historical injustices, inter alia, have contributed to the poverty, underdevelopment, marginalization, social exclusion, economic disparity, instability and insecurity that affect many people in different parts of the world, in particular in developing countries,

*Recognizing further* that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is one of the critical elements in the promotion and realization of the right to development and is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, which requires a multifaceted and integrated approach, and committed to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner,

*Emphasizing* that all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

*Emphasizing also* that the right to development is vital for the full realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and should be central to its implementation,

*Encouraging* relevant bodies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, including the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, relevant international organizations, including the World Trade Organization, and relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations, to give due consideration to the right to development in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to cooperate with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the fulfilment of her mandate with regard to the implementation of the right to development,

1. *Takes note* of the consolidated report of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights concerning the promotion and realization of the right to development;<sup>402</sup>

2. *Acknowledges* the need to strive for greater acceptance, operationalization and realization of the right to development at the international level while urging all States to undertake at the national level the necessary policy formulation and to institute the measures required for the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

3. *Emphasizes* the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 establishing the Human Rights Council, and in this regard calls upon the Council to implement the agreement to continue to act to ensure that its agenda promotes and advances sustainable development, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>393</sup> which seeks to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what they did not achieve, and also in this regard to lead the raising of the right to development, as set out in paragraphs 5 and 10 of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>391</sup> to the same level as and on a par with all other human rights and fundamental freedoms;

4. *Supports* the realization of the mandate of the Working Group on the Right to Development,<sup>403</sup> and recognizes the need for renewed efforts with a view to overcoming the existing political impasse within the Working Group and to fulfil at the earliest its mandate as established by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 1998/72<sup>399</sup> and the Human Rights Council in its resolution 4/4 of 30 March 2007;<sup>404</sup>

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<sup>402</sup> A/HRC/39/18.

<sup>403</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/63/53/Add.1)*, chap. I.

<sup>404</sup> *Ibid.*, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/62/53), chap. III, sect. A.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the Right to Development on its nineteenth session;<sup>405</sup>

6. *Notes* the presentation to the Working Group at its nineteenth session of the set of standards for the implementation of the right to development prepared by the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group,<sup>406</sup> which is a useful basis for further deliberations on the implementation and realization of the right to development;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Working Group taking appropriate steps to ensure respect for and the practical application of the above-mentioned standards, which could take various forms, including the elaboration of guidelines on the implementation of the right to development, and evolve into a basis for the consideration of an international legal standard of a binding nature through a collaborative process of engagement;

8. *Calls upon* Member States to contribute to the efforts of the Working Group, including by considering the proposed set of standards on the implementation and realization of the right to development, and in that context underscores the importance of finalizing the criteria and subcriteria of the right to development;

9. *Stresses* the importance of the core principles contained in the conclusions of the Working Group at its third session<sup>407</sup> that are congruent with the purpose of international human rights instruments, such as equality, non-discrimination, accountability, participation and international cooperation, as critical to mainstreaming the right to development at the national and international levels, and underlines the importance of the principles of equity and transparency;

10. *Also stresses* that it is important that the Chair-Rapporteur and the Working Group, in the discharge of their mandates, take into account the need:

(a) To promote the democratization of the system of international governance in order to increase the effective participation of developing countries in international decision-making;

(b) To also promote effective partnerships such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development<sup>401</sup> and other similar initiatives with the developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, for the purpose of the realization of their right to development, including the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

(c) To strive for greater acceptance, operationalization and realization of the right to development at the international level, while urging all States to undertake at the national level the necessary policy formulation and to institute the measures required for the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and also while urging all States to expand and deepen mutually beneficial cooperation in ensuring development and eliminating obstacles to development in the context of promoting effective international cooperation for the realization of the right to development, bearing in mind that lasting progress towards the implementation of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level and a favourable economic environment at the international level;

(d) To consider ways and means to continue to ensure the operationalization of the right to development as a priority;

(e) To mainstream the right to development in the policies and operational activities of the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as in the policies and strategies of the international financial and multilateral trading systems, bearing in mind in this regard that the core principles of the international economic, commercial and financial spheres, such as equity, non-discrimination, transparency, accountability, participation and international cooperation, including effective partnerships for development, are indispensable in achieving the right to development and preventing discriminatory treatment arising from political or other non-economic considerations in addressing the issues of concern to the developing countries;

11. *Encourages* the Human Rights Council to continue to consider how to ensure follow-up to the work of the former Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on the right to development, in

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<sup>405</sup> A/HRC/39/56.

<sup>406</sup> A/HRC/WG.2/17/2.

<sup>407</sup> See E/CN.4/2002/28/Rev.1, sect. VIII.A.

accordance with the relevant provisions of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights and in compliance with decisions to be taken by the Council;

12. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to development,<sup>408</sup> which underlines the link between South-South cooperation, sustainable development and the right to development, and requests him to pay particular attention to the implementation of the right to development, in accordance with his mandate;

13. *Stresses* that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation and hence should not result in a reduction of North-South cooperation or hamper progress in fulfilling existing official development assistance commitments, and encourages Member States and other relevant stakeholders to incorporate the right to development into the design, financing and implementation of cooperation processes;

14. *Urges* Member States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to provide the Special Rapporteur on the right to development with all the assistance and support necessary for the fulfilment of his mandate;

15. *Reaffirms* the commitment to implement the goals and targets set out in all the outcome documents of the major United Nations conferences and summits and their review processes, in particular those relating to the realization of the right to development, recognizing that the realization of the right to development is critical to achieving the objectives, goals and targets set out in those outcome documents;

16. *Also reaffirms* that the realization of the right to development is essential to the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, which regards all human rights as universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, places the human person at the centre of development and recognizes that, while development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, a lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights;

17. *Further reaffirms* that development contributes significantly to the enjoyment of all human rights by all, and calls upon all countries to realize people-centred development of the people, by the people and for the people;

18. *Calls upon* all States to spare no effort in promoting the right to development, in particular while implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as it is conducive to the overall enjoyment of human rights;

19. *Stresses* that the primary responsibility for the promotion and protection of all human rights lies with the State, and reaffirms that States have the primary responsibility for their own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized;

20. *Reaffirms* the primary responsibility of States to create national and international conditions favourable to the realization of the right to development, as well as their commitment to cooperate with one another to that end;

21. *Expresses concern* about the increasing cases of human rights violations and abuses by some transnational corporations and other business enterprises, underlines the need to ensure that appropriate protection, justice and remedies are provided to the victims of human rights violations and abuses resulting from their activities, and underscores the fact that these entities must contribute to the means of implementation for the realization of the right to development;

22. *Reaffirms* the need for an international environment that is conducive to the realization of the right to development;

23. *Emphasizes* the critical importance of identifying and analysing obstacles impeding the full realization of the right to development at both the national and international levels;

24. *Reaffirms* that, while globalization offers both opportunities and challenges, the process of globalization remains deficient in achieving the objectives of integrating all countries into a globalized world, stresses the need for

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<sup>408</sup> [A/73/271](#).

policies and measures at the national and global levels to respond to the challenges and opportunities of globalization if this process is to be made fully inclusive and equitable, recognizes that globalization has brought disparities between and within countries and that issues such as trade and trade liberalization, the transfer of technology, infrastructure development and market access should be managed effectively in order to mitigate the challenges of poverty and underdevelopment and to make the right to development a reality for everyone;

25. *Recognizes* that, despite continuous efforts on the part of the international community, the gap between developed and developing countries remains unacceptably wide, that most of the developing countries continue to face difficulties in participating in the globalization process and that many risk being marginalized and effectively excluded from its benefits;

26. *Expresses its deep concern*, in this regard, about the negative impact on the realization of the right to development owing to the further aggravation of the economic and social situation, in particular of developing countries, as a result of the effects of international energy, food and financial crises, as well as the increasing challenges posed by global climate change and the loss of biodiversity, which have increased vulnerabilities and inequalities and have adversely affected development gains, in particular in developing countries;

27. *Encourages* Member States to give particular consideration to the right to development in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and emphasizes that the 2030 Agenda promotes the respect for all human rights, including the right to development;

28. *Recalls* the commitment in the United Nations Millennium Declaration<sup>392</sup> of halving the number of people living in poverty by 2015, notes with concern that some developing countries have failed to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard invites Member States and the international community to take proactive measures aimed at creating a conducive environment to contribute to the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda, in particular increasing international cooperation, including partnership and commitment, between developed and developing countries towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;

29. *Urges* developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts towards meeting the targets of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.2 per cent of their gross national product to the least developed countries, and encourages developing countries to build on the progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help to meet development goals and targets;

30. *Recognizes* the need to address market access for developing countries, including in the sectors of agriculture, services and non-agricultural products, in particular those of interest to developing countries;

31. *Calls once again for* the implementation of a desirable pace of meaningful trade liberalization, including in areas under negotiation in the World Trade Organization, the implementation of commitments on implementation-related issues and concerns, a review of special and differential treatment provisions, with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective and operational, the avoidance of new forms of protectionism, and capacity-building and technical assistance for developing countries as important issues in making progress towards the effective implementation of the right to development;

32. *Recognizes* the important link between the international economic, commercial and financial spheres and the realization of the right to development, stresses in this regard the need for good governance and for broadening the base of decision-making at the international level on issues of development concern and the need to fill organizational gaps, as well as to strengthen the United Nations system and other multilateral institutions, and also stresses the need to broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting;

33. *Also recognizes* that good governance and the rule of law at the national level assist all States in the promotion and protection of human rights, including the right to development, and agrees on the value of the ongoing efforts being made by States to identify and strengthen good governance practices, including transparent, responsible, accountable and participatory government, that are responsive and appropriate to their needs and aspirations, including in the context of agreed partnership approaches to development, capacity-building and technical assistance;

34. *Further recognizes* the important role and the rights of women and the application of a gender perspective as a cross-cutting issue in the process of realizing the right to development, and notes in particular the positive

relationship between the education of women and their equal participation in the civil, cultural, economic, political and social activities of the community and the promotion of the right to development;

35. *Stresses* the need for the integration of the rights of children, girls and boys alike, in all policies and programmes and for ensuring the promotion and protection of those rights, especially in areas relating to health, education and the full development of their capacities;

36. *Recalls* the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: On the Fast Track to Accelerating the Fight against HIV and to Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030, adopted on 8 June 2016 at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on HIV and AIDS,<sup>409</sup> and underscores the importance of enhanced international cooperation to support the efforts of Member States to achieve health goals, including the target of ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030, implement universal access to health-care services and address health challenges;

37. *Welcomes* the political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases<sup>410</sup> and the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the fight against tuberculosis,<sup>411</sup> both adopted on 10 October 2018, with their particular focus on development and other challenges and social and economic determinants and impacts, particularly for developing countries;

38. *Recalls* the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>412</sup> which entered into force on 3 May 2008, and General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, and, while recognizing persons with disabilities as agents and beneficiaries of development, stresses the need to take into consideration the rights of persons with disabilities and the importance of international cooperation in support of national efforts in the realization of the right to development;

39. *Stresses its commitment* to indigenous peoples in the process of the realization of the right to development, reaffirms the commitment to promote their rights in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security, in accordance with recognized international human rights obligations and taking into account, as appropriate, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/295 of 13 September 2007, and in this regard recalls the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, held in 2014;

40. *Recognizes* the need for strong partnerships with civil society organizations and the private sector in pursuit of poverty eradication and development, as well as for corporate social responsibility;

41. *Emphasizes* the urgent need to take concrete and effective measures to prevent, combat and criminalize all forms of corruption at all levels, to prevent, detect and deter in a more effective manner international transfers of illicitly acquired assets and to strengthen international cooperation in asset recovery, consistent with the principles of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,<sup>413</sup> particularly chapter V thereof, stresses the importance of a genuine political commitment on the part of all Governments through a firm legal framework, and in this context urges States to sign and ratify the Convention as soon as possible and States parties to implement it effectively;

42. *Also emphasizes* the need to strengthen further the activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the promotion and realization of the right to development, including by ensuring the effective use of the financial and human resources necessary to fulfil its mandate, and calls upon the Secretary-General to provide the Office with the necessary resources;

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<sup>409</sup> Resolution 70/266, annex.

<sup>410</sup> Resolution 73/2.

<sup>411</sup> Resolution 73/3.

<sup>412</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>413</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.



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43. *Reaffirms* the request to the High Commissioner, in mainstreaming the right to development, to effectively undertake activities aimed at strengthening the global partnership for development among Member States, development agencies and the international development, financial and trade institutions and to reflect those activities in detail in her next report to the Human Rights Council;

44. *Calls upon* the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to mainstream the right to development in their operational programmes and objectives, and stresses the need for the international financial and multilateral trading systems to mainstream the right to development in their policies and objectives;

45. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, United Nations organs and bodies, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, international development and financial institutions, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, and non-governmental organizations;

46. *Encourages* relevant bodies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, including the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, relevant international organizations, including the World Trade Organization, and relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations, to give due consideration to the right to development in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, to contribute further to the work of the Working Group on the Right to Development and the Special Rapporteur on the right to development and to cooperate with the High Commissioner in the fulfilment of her mandate with regard to the implementation of the right to development;

47. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session and an interim report to the Human Rights Council on the implementation of the present resolution, including efforts undertaken at the national, regional and international levels in the promotion and realization of the right to development, and invites the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group and the Special Rapporteur to present an oral report and to engage in an interactive dialogue with the Assembly at its seventy-fourth session.

### RESOLUTION 73/167

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/589/Add.2](#), para. 162),<sup>414</sup> by a recorded vote of 133 to 53, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Brazil, Kiribati, Palau

<sup>414</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: China, Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries) and Russian Federation.

### 73/167. Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* all its previous resolutions on this subject, the most recent of which was resolution [72/168](#) of 19 December 2017, and Human Rights Council decision 18/120 of 30 September 2011<sup>415</sup> and resolutions [24/14](#) of 27 September 2013,<sup>416</sup> [27/21](#) of 26 September 2014,<sup>417</sup> [30/2](#) of 1 October 2015,<sup>418</sup> [36/10](#) of 28 September 2017<sup>419</sup> and [37/21](#) of 23 March 2018,<sup>420</sup> as well as previous resolutions of the Council and the Commission on Human Rights,

*Reaffirming* the pertinent principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution [3281 \(XXIX\)](#) of 12 December 1974, in particular article 32 thereof, in which it declared that no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

*Taking note* of the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution [72/168](#)<sup>421</sup> and to Human Rights Council resolutions [27/21](#) and [30/2](#),<sup>422</sup> and recalling the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Assembly resolutions [52/120](#) of 12 December 1997<sup>423</sup> and [55/110](#) of 4 December 2000,<sup>424</sup>

*Stressing* that unilateral coercive measures and legislation are contrary to international law, international humanitarian law, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States,

*Recognizing* the universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated character of all human rights, and in this regard reaffirming the right to development as an integral part of all human rights,

*Recalling* the Final Document of the Sixteenth Ministerial Conference and Commemorative Meeting of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 23 to 27 May 2011,<sup>425</sup> the Final Document of the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, and the documents adopted at previous summits and conferences, in which States members of the Movement agreed to oppose and condemn unilateral coercive measures and their continued application, persevere with efforts to effectively reverse them, urge other States to do likewise, as called for by the General Assembly and other organs of the United Nations, and request States applying those measures or laws to revoke them fully and immediately,

*Recalling also* that, at the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, States were called upon to refrain from any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter that creates obstacles to trade relations among States and impedes the full realization of all human rights<sup>426</sup> and also severely threatens the freedom of trade,

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<sup>415</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum ([A/66/53/Add.1](#) and [A/66/53/Add.1/Corr.1](#)), chap. III.

<sup>416</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53A* ([A/68/53/Add.1](#)), chap. III.

<sup>417</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda ([A/69/53/Add.1](#), [A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.1](#) and [A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.2](#)), chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>418</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53A* ([A/70/53/Add.1](#)), chap. III.

<sup>419</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53A* ([A/72/53/Add.1](#)), chap. III.

<sup>420</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53* ([A/73/53](#)) chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>421</sup> [A/73/175](#).

<sup>422</sup> [A/HRC/36/44](#).

<sup>423</sup> [A/53/293](#) and [A/53/293/Add.1](#).

<sup>424</sup> [A/56/207](#) and [A/56/207/Add.1](#).

<sup>425</sup> [A/65/896-S/2011/407](#), annex I.

<sup>426</sup> See [A/CONF.157/24 \(Part I\)](#), chap. III.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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*Bearing in mind* all the references to this question in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, adopted by the World Summit for Social Development on 12 March 1995,<sup>427</sup> the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995,<sup>428</sup> the Quito Declaration on Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements for All and the Quito implementation plan for the New Urban Agenda, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) on 20 October 2016,<sup>429</sup> and in the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries,

*Expressing concern* about the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on international relations, trade, investment and cooperation,

*Expressing grave concern* that, in some countries, the situation of children is adversely affected by unilateral coercive measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that create obstacles to trade relations among States, impede the full realization of social and economic development and hinder the well-being of the population in the affected countries, with particular consequences for women, children, including adolescents, the elderly and persons with disabilities,

*Deeply concerned* that, despite the recommendations adopted on this question by the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Commission on Human Rights and recent major United Nations conferences, and contrary to general international law and the Charter, unilateral coercive measures continue to be promulgated and implemented, with all their negative implications for the social humanitarian activities and economic and social development of developing countries, including their extraterritorial effects, thereby creating additional obstacles to the full enjoyment of all human rights by peoples and individuals under the jurisdiction of other States,

*Bearing in mind* all the extraterritorial effects of any unilateral legislative, administrative and economic measures, policies and practices of a coercive nature against the development process and the enhancement of human rights in developing countries, which create obstacles to the full realization of all human rights,

*Reaffirming* that unilateral coercive measures are a major obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,<sup>430</sup>

*Recalling* article 1, paragraph 2, common to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>431</sup> and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>431</sup> which provides, inter alia, that in no case may a people be deprived of its own means of subsistence,

*Noting* the continuing efforts of the open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council, and reaffirming in particular its criteria, according to which unilateral coercive measures are one of the obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,

1. *Urges* all States to cease adopting or implementing any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law, international humanitarian law, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States, in particular those of a coercive nature, with all their extraterritorial effects,

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<sup>427</sup> *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>428</sup> *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.

<sup>429</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

<sup>430</sup> Resolution 41/128, annex.

<sup>431</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

which create obstacles to trade relations among States, thus impeding the full realization of the rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>432</sup> and other international human rights instruments, in particular the right of individuals and peoples to development;

2. *Strongly urges* States to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that impede the full achievement of sustainable economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;

3. *Condemns* the inclusion of Member States in unilateral lists under false pretexts, which are contrary to international law and the Charter, including false allegations of terrorism sponsorship, considering such lists as instruments for political or economic pressure against Member States, particularly developing countries;

4. *Urges* all States not to adopt any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that impede the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries, in particular children and women, that hinder their well-being and that create obstacles to the full enjoyment of their human rights, including the right of everyone to a standard of living adequate for his or her health and well-being and his or her right to food, medical care and education and the necessary social services, as well as to ensure that food and medicine are not used as tools for political pressure;

5. *Strongly objects* to the extraterritorial nature of those measures which, in addition, threaten the sovereignty of States, and in this context calls upon all Member States neither to recognize those measures nor to apply them, as well as to take administrative or legislative measures, as appropriate, to counteract the extraterritorial applications or effects of unilateral coercive measures;

6. *Condemns* the continuing unilateral application and enforcement by certain Powers of unilateral coercive measures, and rejects those measures, with all their extraterritorial effects, as being tools for political or economic pressure against any country, in particular against developing countries, adopted with a view to preventing those countries from exercising their right to decide, of their own free will, their own political, economic and social systems, and because of the negative effects of those measures on the realization of all the human rights of vast sectors of their populations, in particular children, women, the elderly and persons with disabilities;

7. *Expresses grave concern* that, in some countries, the situation of children is adversely affected by unilateral coercive measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that create obstacles to trade relations among States, impede the full realization of social and economic development and hinder the well-being of the population in the affected countries, with particular consequences for women, children, including adolescents, the elderly and persons with disabilities;

8. *Reaffirms* that essential goods such as food and medicines should not be used as tools for political coercion and that under no circumstances should people be deprived of their own means of subsistence and development;

9. *Calls upon* Member States that have initiated such measures to abide by the principles of international law, the Charter, the declarations of the United Nations and world conferences and relevant resolutions and to commit themselves to their obligations and responsibilities arising from the international human rights instruments to which they are parties by revoking such measures at the earliest possible time;

10. *Reaffirms*, in this context, the right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

11. *Recalls* that, according to the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, and the relevant principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, proclaimed by the Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX), in particular article 32 thereof, no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any

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<sup>432</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights and to secure from it advantages of any kind;

12. *Rejects* all attempts to introduce unilateral coercive measures, and urges the Human Rights Council to take fully into account the negative impact of those measures, including through the enactment and extraterritorial application of national laws that are not in conformity with international law, in its task concerning the implementation of the right to development;

13. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in discharging her functions relating to the promotion, realization and protection of the right to development and bearing in mind the continuing impact of unilateral coercive measures on the population of developing countries, to give priority to the present resolution in her annual report to the General Assembly;

14. *Underlines* the fact that unilateral coercive measures are one of the major obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,<sup>430</sup> and in this regard calls upon all States to avoid the unilateral imposition of economic coercive measures and the extraterritorial application of national laws that run counter to the principles of free trade and hamper the development of developing countries, as recognized by the open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council;

15. *Recognizes* that, in the Declaration of Principles adopted at the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,<sup>433</sup> States were strongly urged to avoid and refrain from any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations in building the information society;

16. *Reaffirms* paragraph 30 of the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,<sup>434</sup> in which States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;

17. *Recalls* the decision of the Human Rights Council, in its resolution 27/21,<sup>417</sup> to appoint a Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, and welcomes the work done in delivering his mandate;

18. *Welcomes* the decision taken by the Human Rights Council, in its resolution 36/10,<sup>419</sup> to extend, for a period of three years, the mandate of the Special Rapporteur as set out in Council resolution 27/21;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide all the human and financial resources necessary for the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur, and also requests them, in discharging their functions in relation to the promotion and protection of human rights, to pay due attention and to give urgent consideration to the present resolution;

20. *Recalls* that the Human Rights Council took note of the research-based progress report of its Advisory Committee containing recommendations on mechanisms to assess the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights and to promote accountability;<sup>435</sup>

21. *Takes note* of the contribution of the first biennial panel discussion on the issue of unilateral coercive measures and human rights organized by the Human Rights Council in 2015 to increase awareness of the negative impact that unilateral coercive measures have on the enjoyment of human rights in the targeted and non-targeted countries, and invites the Council to follow up on the discussion at the second biennial panel in 2017;

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<sup>433</sup> [A/C.2/59/3](#), annex, chap. I, sect. A.

<sup>434</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>435</sup> [A/HRC/28/74](#).

22. *Invites* the Human Rights Council and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue paying attention and explore ways to address the negative impact of the application of unilateral coercive measures;

23. *Reiterates its support* for the invitation of the Human Rights Council to all special rapporteurs and existing thematic mechanisms of the Council in the field of economic, social and cultural rights to pay due attention, within the scope of their respective mandates, to the negative impact and consequences of unilateral coercive measures;

24. *Takes note with interest* of the proposals contained in the report of the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights,<sup>421</sup> and requests the Special Rapporteur to include in his report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session more information on the process regarding the discussions of his proposals at the Human Rights Council;

25. *Reaffirms* the request of the Human Rights Council that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights organize a workshop on the impact of the application of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights by the affected populations, in particular their socioeconomic impact on women and children, in the States targeted;

26. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the full enjoyment of human rights;

27. *Invites* Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of his mandate through, inter alia, the submission of comments and suggestions on the implications and negative effects of unilateral coercive measures on the full enjoyment of human rights;

28. *Decides* to examine the question on a priority basis at its seventy-fourth session under the sub-item entitled “Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms” of the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”.

### RESOLUTION 73/168

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.2, para. 162)<sup>436</sup>

#### 73/168. Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming its commitment* to promoting international cooperation, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 1, paragraph 3, as well as relevant provisions of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,<sup>437</sup> for enhancing genuine cooperation among Member States in the field of human rights,

*Recalling* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which the General Assembly adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals,

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<sup>436</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: China, Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), El Salvador, Paraguay and Russian Federation.

<sup>437</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.



*Recalling also* its adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration on 8 September 2000,<sup>438</sup> its resolution 72/169 of 19 December 2017, Human Rights Council resolution 38/3 of 5 July 2018<sup>439</sup> and the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,

*Recalling further* the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, the Durban Review Conference, held in Geneva from 20 to 24 April 2009, and the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>440</sup> and their role in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,

*Recognizing* that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights,

*Recognizing also* that the promotion and protection of human rights should be based on the principle of cooperation and genuine dialogue and aimed at strengthening the capacity of Member States to comply with their human rights obligations for the benefit of all human beings,

*Underlining* that cooperation is not just a matter of relations of good-neighbourliness, coexistence or reciprocity, but rather of a willingness to look beyond mutual interests in order to advance the general interest,

*Stressing* the importance of international cooperation for improving the living conditions of all in every country, including, in particular, in developing countries,

*Reaffirming* that dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations in the field of human rights could contribute greatly to the enhancement of international cooperation in this field,

*Reiterating* the important role that genuine human rights dialogue can play in the enhancement of cooperation in the field of human rights at the bilateral, regional and international levels,

*Emphasizing* that human rights dialogue should be constructive and based on the principles of universality, indivisibility, objectivity, non-selectivity, non-politicization, mutual respect and equal treatment, with the aim of facilitating mutual understanding and strengthening constructive cooperation, including through capacity-building and technical cooperation between States,

*Emphasizing also* the need for further progress in the promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation,

*Underlining* the fact that mutual understanding, dialogue, cooperation, transparency and confidence-building are important elements in all activities for the promotion and protection of human rights,

*Recalling* the adoption of resolution 2000/22 of 18 August 2000, on the promotion of dialogue on human rights issues, by the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights at its fifty-second session,<sup>441</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* that it is one of the purposes of the United Nations and the responsibility of all Member States to promote, protect and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation;

2. *Recognizes* that, in addition to their separate responsibilities to their individual societies, States have a collective responsibility to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level;

3. *Reaffirms* that dialogue among cultures and civilizations facilitates the promotion of a culture of tolerance and respect for diversity, and welcomes in this regard the holding of conferences and meetings at the national, regional and international levels on dialogue among civilizations;

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<sup>438</sup> Resolution 55/2.

<sup>439</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/73/53)*, chap. VI, sect. A.

<sup>440</sup> Resolution 66/3.

<sup>441</sup> See *E/CN.4/2001/2–E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/46*, chap. II, sect. A.

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4. *Also reaffirms* the duty of States to cooperate with one another in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations in the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including with respect to the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination and all forms of religious intolerance;

5. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

6. *Reaffirms* the importance of the enhancement of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of human rights and for the achievement of the objectives of the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

7. *Considers* that international cooperation in the field of human rights, in conformity with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations and international law, should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

8. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms should be guided by the principles of universality, non-selectivity, cooperation and genuine dialogue, objectivity and transparency, in a manner consistent with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter;

9. *Emphasizes* the importance of the universal periodic review as a mechanism based on cooperation and constructive dialogue with the objective of, inter alia, improving the situation of human rights on the ground and promoting the fulfilment of the human rights obligations and commitments undertaken by States;

10. *Also emphasizes* the need for a cooperative and constructive approach on the part of all stakeholders to resolving human rights issues in international forums;

11. *Further emphasizes* the role of international cooperation in support of national efforts and in increasing the capacities of Member States in the field of human rights through, inter alia, the enhancement of their cooperation with human rights mechanisms, including through the provision of technical assistance, upon the request of and in accordance with the priorities set by the States concerned;

12. *Calls upon* Member States, the specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations to continue to carry out a constructive dialogue and consultations for the enhancement of understanding and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and encourages non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to this endeavour;

13. *Urges* States to take measures necessary to enhance bilateral, regional and international cooperation aimed at addressing the adverse impact of consecutive and compounded global crises, such as financial and economic crises, food crises, climate change and natural disasters, on the full enjoyment of human rights;

14. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights;

15. *Encourages* all Member States and the United Nations system to explore and foster complementarities among North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation aiming at the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to consult States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on ways and means, as well as on obstacles and challenges and possible proposals to overcome them, for the enhancement of international cooperation and genuine dialogue in the United Nations human rights machinery, including the Human Rights Council;

17. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-fourth session.

## RESOLUTION 73/169

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.2, para. 162),<sup>442</sup> by a recorded vote of 131 to 53, with 7 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Armenia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Peru

### 73/169. Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, including resolution 72/172 of 19 December 2017, and Human Rights Council resolutions 18/6 of 29 September 2011,<sup>443</sup> 33/3 of 29 September 2016,<sup>444</sup> 36/4 of 28 September 2017<sup>445</sup> and 39/4 of 27 September 2018,<sup>446</sup>

*Reaffirming* the commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, other instruments relating to human rights and international law,

*Affirming* that the enhancement of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of all human rights should continue to be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law, as set forth in Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter, and with full respect for, inter alia, sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence, the non-use of force or the threat of force in international relations and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State,

*Recalling* the Preamble to the Charter, in particular the determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

<sup>442</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Central African Republic, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ghana, Guinea, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

<sup>443</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and A/66/53/Add.1/Corr.1), chap. II.

<sup>444</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.1 and A/71/53/Add.1/Corr.1), chap. II.

<sup>445</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/72/53/Add.1), chap. III.

<sup>446</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/73/53/Add.1), chap. III.

*Reaffirming* that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>447</sup> can be fully realized,

*Reaffirming also* the determination expressed in the Preamble to the Charter to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, to practise tolerance and good-neighbourliness and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

*Stressing* that the responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social issues, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally, and that in this regard the central role must be played by the United Nations, as the most universal and representative organization in the world,

*Concerned* about the continued abuse by Member States of the extraterritorial application of their national legislation in a manner that affects the sovereignty of other States, the legitimate interests of entities or persons under their jurisdiction and the full enjoyment of human rights,

*Considering* the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples for an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter, including promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

*Recognizing* that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights,

*Considering* that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

*Reaffirming* that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing and that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

*Recognizing* that the promotion and protection of human rights should be based on the principle of cooperation and genuine dialogue and aimed at strengthening the capacity of Member States to comply with their human rights obligations for the benefit of all human beings,

*Emphasizing* that democracy is not only a political concept, but that it also has economic and social dimensions,

*Recognizing* that democracy, respect for all human rights, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society and effective participation by civil society are an essential part of the necessary foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development,

*Noting with concern* that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance may be aggravated by, inter alia, inequitable distribution of wealth, marginalization and social exclusion,

*Reaffirming* that dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations could contribute greatly to the enhancement of international cooperation at all levels,

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<sup>447</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

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*Underlining* the fact that it is imperative for the international community to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people and that only through broad and sustained efforts, based on our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable,

*Deeply concerned* that the current global economic, financial, energy and food crises, resulting from a combination of several major factors, including macroeconomic and other factors, such as environmental degradation, desertification and global climate change, natural disasters and the lack of financial resources and the technology necessary to confront their negative impact in developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries and small island developing States, represent a global scenario that is threatening the adequate enjoyment of all human rights and widening the gap between developed and developing countries,

*Recognizing* that a democratic and equitable order requires the reform of international financial institutions, in order to widen and strengthen the level of participation of developing countries in the international decision-making process, and a more transparent and open financial system, as well as adequate measures against illicit financial flows, such as tax fraud, tax evasion, illegal capital flight, money-laundering and the proceeds of corruption, and for improving tax transparency worldwide,

*Stressing* that efforts to make globalization fully inclusive and equitable must include policies and measures at the global level that correspond to the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition and are formulated and implemented with their effective participation,

*Stressing also* the need for adequate financing of, technology transfer to and capacity-building in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, including to support their efforts to adapt to climate change,

*Having listened* to the peoples of the world, and recognizing their aspirations to justice, to equality of opportunity for all, to the enjoyment of their human rights, including the right to development, to live in peace and freedom and to equal participation without discrimination in economic, social, cultural, civil and political life,

*Recalling* Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 on institution-building of the Council and 5/2 on the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate Holders of the Council of 18 June 2007,<sup>448</sup> and stressing that all mandate holders shall discharge their duties in accordance with those resolutions and the annexes thereto,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>449</sup> for the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order,

*Resolved* to take all measures within its power to secure a democratic and equitable international order,

1. *Affirms* that everyone is entitled to a democratic and equitable international order;
2. *Also affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order fosters the full realization of all human rights for all;
3. *Takes note* of the report of the Independent Expert of the Human Rights Council on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;<sup>450</sup>
4. *Calls upon* all Member States to fulfil their commitment expressed in Durban, South Africa, during the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to maximize the benefits of globalization through, inter alia, the strengthening and enhancement of international cooperation to increase equality of opportunities for trade, economic growth and sustainable development, global communications through the use of new technologies and increased intercultural exchange through the preservation and promotion of

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<sup>448</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/62/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>449</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>450</sup> See A/73/158.

cultural diversity,<sup>451</sup> and reiterates that only through broad and sustained efforts to create a shared future based upon our common humanity and all its diversity can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable;

5. *Declares* that democracy includes respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms and is a universal value based on the freely expressed will of people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives, and reaffirms the need for universal adherence to and implementation of the rule of law at both the national and international levels;

6. *Affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order requires, inter alia, the realization of the following:

(a) The right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they can freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

(b) The right of peoples and nations to permanent sovereignty over their natural wealth and resources;

(c) The right of every human person and all peoples to development;

(d) The right of all peoples to peace;

(e) The right to an international economic order based on equal participation in the decision-making process, interdependence, mutual interest, solidarity and cooperation among all States;

(f) International solidarity, as a right of peoples and individuals;

(g) The promotion and consolidation of transparent, democratic, just and accountable international institutions in all areas of cooperation, in particular through the implementation of the principle of full and equal participation in their respective decision-making mechanisms;

(h) The right to equitable participation of all, without any discrimination, in domestic and global decision-making;

(i) The principle of equitable regional and gender-balanced representation in the composition of the staff of the United Nations system;

(j) The promotion of a free, just, effective and balanced international information and communications order based on international cooperation for the establishment of a new equilibrium and greater reciprocity in the international flow of information, in particular correcting the inequalities in the flow of information to and from developing countries;

(k) Respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all, since this enhances cultural pluralism, contributes to a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural backgrounds, advances the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights across the world and fosters stable, friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

(l) The right of every person and all peoples to a healthy environment and to enhanced international cooperation that responds effectively to the needs for assistance of national efforts to adapt to climate change, particularly in developing countries, and that promotes the fulfilment of international agreements in the field of mitigation;

(m) The promotion of equitable access to benefits from the international distribution of wealth through enhanced international cooperation, in particular in international economic, commercial and financial relations;

(n) The enjoyment by everyone of ownership of the common heritage of humankind in connection to the public right of access to culture;

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<sup>451</sup> See [A/CONF.189/12](#) and [A/CONF.189/12/Corr.1](#), chap. I.



## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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(o) The shared responsibility of the nations of the world for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, which should be exercised multilaterally;

7. *Stresses* the importance of preserving the rich and diverse nature of the international community of nations and peoples, as well as respect for national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds, in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights;

8. *Also stresses* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and reaffirms that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all;

9. *Reaffirms*, among other principles, the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention and non-interference in internal affairs;

10. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, social justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

11. *Reaffirms* that all States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and, to that end, should do their utmost to achieve general and complete disarmament under effective international control, as well as to ensure that the resources released by effective disarmament measures are used for comprehensive development, in particular that of the developing countries;

12. *Underlines* that attempts to overthrow legitimate Governments by force disrupt the democratic and constitutional order, the legitimate exercise of power and the full enjoyment of human rights, and reaffirms that every State has an inalienable right to choose its political, economic, social and cultural system, without interference in any form by other States;

13. *Reaffirms* the need to continue working urgently for the establishment of a new international economic order based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest and cooperation among all States, irrespective of their economic and social systems, which shall correct inequalities and redress existing injustices, make it possible to eliminate the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries and ensure steadily accelerating economic and social development and peace and justice for present and future generations, in accordance with relevant previous General Assembly resolutions, programmes of action and major conferences and summits in the economic, social and related areas;

14. *Also reaffirms* that the international community should devise ways and means to remove the current obstacles and meet the challenges to the full realization of all human rights and to prevent the continuation of human rights violations resulting therefrom throughout the world;

15. *Urges* States to continue their efforts, through enhanced international cooperation, towards the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;

16. *Affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order, as prescribed in the Charter of the United Nations, cannot be achieved only through the deregulation of trade, markets and financial services;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide all the human and financial resources necessary for the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Independent Expert;

18. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Independent Expert in his task, to supply all necessary information requested by him and to consider responding favourably to the requests of the Independent Expert to visit their countries to enable him to fulfil his mandate more effectively;

19. *Requests* the Human Rights Council, the human rights treaty bodies, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the special mechanisms extended by the Council and the Human Rights

Council Advisory Committee to pay due attention, within their respective mandates, to the present resolution and to make contributions towards its implementation;

20. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner to build upon the issue of the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, United Nations organs, bodies and components, intergovernmental organizations, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, and non-governmental organizations and to disseminate it on the widest possible basis;

22. *Requests* the Independent Expert to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and invites him to undertake research into the impact of financial and economic policies pursued by international organizations and other institutions on a democratic and equitable international order;

23. *Decides* to continue consideration of the matter at its seventy-fourth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

### RESOLUTION 73/170

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.2, para. 162),<sup>452</sup> by a recorded vote of 135 to 53, with 1 abstention, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Tonga

#### **73/170. Promotion of peace as a vital requirement for the full enjoyment of all human rights by all**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 65/222 of 21 December 2010, 67/173 of 20 December 2012 and 69/176 of 18 December 2014, and Human Rights Council resolutions 20/15 of 5 July 2012,<sup>453</sup> 23/16 of 13 June 2013,<sup>454</sup>

<sup>452</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Central African Republic, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Guinea, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

<sup>453</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigenda (A/67/53, A/67/53/Corr.1 and A/67/53/Corr.2), chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>454</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. V, sect. A.

27/17 of 25 September 2014,<sup>455</sup> 30/12 of 1 October 2015<sup>456</sup> and 35/4 of 22 June 2017,<sup>457</sup> entitled “Promotion of the right to peace”,

*Recalling also* its resolution 39/11 of 12 November 1984, entitled “Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace”, and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>458</sup>

*Determined* to foster strict respect for the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Bearing in mind* that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

*Underlining*, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations, its full and active support for the United Nations and for the enhancement of its role and effectiveness in strengthening international peace and security and justice and in promoting the solution of international problems, as well as the development of friendly relations and cooperation among States,

*Reaffirming* the obligation of all States to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered,

*Emphasizing* its objective of promoting better relations among all States and contributing to setting up conditions in which their people can live in true and lasting peace, free from any threat to or attempt against their security,

*Reaffirming* the obligation of all States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming its commitment* to peace and security and justice and the continuing development of friendly relations and cooperation among States,

*Rejecting* the use of violence in pursuit of political aims, and stressing that only peaceful political solutions can ensure a stable and democratic future for all people around the world,

*Reaffirming* the importance of ensuring respect for the principles of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of States and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State, in accordance with the Charter and international law,

*Reaffirming also* that all peoples have the right to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

*Reaffirming further* the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,<sup>459</sup>

*Recognizing* that peace and development are mutually reinforcing, including in the prevention of armed conflict,

*Affirming* that human rights include social, economic and cultural rights and the right to peace, a healthy environment and development, and that development is in fact the realization of those rights,

*Underlining* the fact that the subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation constitutes a denial of fundamental rights, is contrary to the Charter and is an impediment to the promotion of world peace and cooperation,

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<sup>455</sup> Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1, A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.1 and A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.2), chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>456</sup> Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/70/53/Add.1), chap. III.

<sup>457</sup> Ibid., *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/72/53), chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>458</sup> Resolution 55/2.

<sup>459</sup> Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

*Recalling* that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>460</sup> can be fully realized,

*Convinced* of the aim of creating conditions of stability and well-being, which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principles of equal rights and self-determination of peoples,

*Convinced also* that life without war is the primary international prerequisite for the material well-being, development and progress of countries and for the full implementation of the rights and fundamental human freedoms proclaimed by the United Nations,

*Convinced further* that international cooperation in the field of human rights contributes to creating an international environment of peace and stability,

1. *Welcomes* the Declaration on the Right to Peace,<sup>461</sup> adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2016, and invites States, agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to disseminate the Declaration and to promote universal respect and understanding thereof;

2. *Reaffirms* that the peoples of our planet have a sacred right to peace;

3. *Also reaffirms* that the preservation of the right of peoples to peace and the promotion of its implementation constitute a fundamental obligation of all States;

4. *Stresses* that peace is a vital requirement for the promotion and protection of all human rights for all;

5. *Also stresses* that the deep fault line that divides human society between the rich and the poor and the ever-increasing gap between the developed and developing worlds pose a major threat to global prosperity, peace and security and stability;

6. *Emphasizes* that the preservation and promotion of peace demand that the policies of States be directed towards the elimination of the threat of war, particularly nuclear war, the renunciation of the use or threat of use of force in international relations and the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means on the basis of the Charter of the United Nations;

7. *Affirms* that all States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and an international system based on respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter and the promotion of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development and the right of peoples to self-determination;

8. *Urges* all States to respect and to put into practice the purposes and principles of the Charter in their relations with other States, irrespective of their political, economic or social system and of their size, geographical location or level of economic development;

9. *Reaffirms* the duty of all States, in accordance with the principles of the Charter, to use peaceful means to settle any dispute to which they are party and the continuance of which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, as a vital requirement for the promotion and protection of all human rights of everyone and all peoples;

10. *Underlines* the vital importance of education for peace as a tool to foster the realization of the right of peoples to peace, and encourages States, the specialized agencies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to this endeavour;

11. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights;

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<sup>460</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>461</sup> Resolution 71/189, annex.

12. *Decides* to continue consideration of the question of the promotion of the right of peoples to peace at its seventy-fifth session under the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”.

### RESOLUTION 73/171

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.2, para. 162),<sup>462</sup> by a recorded vote of 188 to 2, with no abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstaining:* None

#### 73/171. The right to food

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the Charter of the United Nations and its importance for the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

*Reaffirming also* previous resolutions and decisions on the right to food adopted within the framework of the United Nations,

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>463</sup> which provides that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for her or his health and well-being, including food, the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition,<sup>464</sup> the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>465</sup> in particular Millennium Development Goal 1 on eradicating extreme poverty and hunger by 2015, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

<sup>462</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen and Zambia.

<sup>463</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>464</sup> *Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5–16 November 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3), chap. I.

<sup>465</sup> Resolution 55/2.

Development,<sup>466</sup> in particular the Sustainable Development Goals on ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture and on ending poverty in all its forms everywhere,

*Recalling also* the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>467</sup> in which the fundamental right of every person to be free from hunger is recognized,

*Bearing in mind* the importance of the Rome Declaration on World Food Security, the World Food Summit Plan of Action and the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later, adopted in Rome on 13 June 2002,<sup>468</sup>

*Reaffirming* the importance of the recommendations contained in the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in November 2004,<sup>469</sup> as well as the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action, adopted in Rome on 21 November 2014,<sup>470</sup>

*Acknowledging* that the right to food has been recognized as the right of every individual, alone or in community with others, to have physical and economic access at all times to sufficient, adequate, nutritious food, in conformity with, inter alia, the culture, beliefs, traditions, dietary habits and preferences of individuals, that is produced and consumed sustainably, thereby preserving access to food for future generations,

*Reaffirming* the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security contained in the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security, adopted in Rome on 16 November 2009,<sup>471</sup>

*Recalling* the proclamation by the General Assembly at its seventy-second session of 2019–2028 as the United Nations Decade of Family Farming and the close links between family farming, the promotion and conservation of historical, cultural and natural heritage, traditional customs and culture, halting the loss of biodiversity and the improvement of the living conditions of people living in rural areas,

*Reaffirming* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that they must be treated globally, in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

*Reaffirming also* that a peaceful, stable and enabling political, social and economic environment, at both the national and the international levels, is the essential foundation that will enable States to give adequate priority to food and nutrition security and poverty eradication,

*Reiterating*, as set out in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security, the Declaration of the World Food Summit and the Rome Declaration on Nutrition, that food should not be used as an instrument of political or economic pressure, and reaffirming in this regard the importance of international cooperation and solidarity, as well as the necessity of refraining from unilateral measures that are not in accordance with international law and the Charter and that endanger food and nutrition security,

*Convinced* that each State must adopt a strategy consistent with its resources and capacities to achieve its individual goals in implementing the recommendations contained in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action, as well as in the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action, and, at the same time, cooperate regionally and internationally in order to organize collective solutions to global issues of food and nutrition security in a world of increasingly interlinked institutions, societies and economies where coordinated efforts and shared responsibilities are essential,

*Recognizing* that, despite the efforts made and the fact that some positive results have been achieved, the problems of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition have a global dimension, that there has not been sufficient progress in reducing hunger and that these problems are increasing dramatically in some regions in the absence of urgent, determined and concerted action,

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<sup>466</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>467</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>468</sup> A/57/499, annex.

<sup>469</sup> E/CN.4/2005/131, annex.

<sup>470</sup> World Health Organization, document EB136/8, annexes I and II.

<sup>471</sup> See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.



*Recognizing also* the importance of traditional sustainable agricultural practices, including traditional seed supply systems, as well as access to credit and other financial services, markets, secure land tenure, health care, social services, education, training, knowledge and appropriate and affordable technologies, including efficient irrigation, the reuse of treated wastewater and water harvesting and storage for indigenous peoples and others living in rural areas,

*Recognizing further* the complex character of food insecurity and its likely recurrence owing to a combination of several major factors, such as the effects of the global financial and economic crisis, environmental degradation, desertification and the impacts of global climate change, as well as poverty, natural disasters, armed conflicts, drought, volatility in commodity prices and the lack in many countries of the appropriate technology, investment and capacity-building necessary to confront its impact, particularly in developing countries, the least developed countries and small island developing States, and the need for coherence and collaboration between international institutions at the global level,

*Noting with great concern* that millions of people are facing famine or the immediate risk of famine or are experiencing severe food insecurity in several regions of the world, and noting also that poverty, armed conflicts, drought and the volatility of commodity prices are among the factors causing or exacerbating famine and severe food insecurity and that additional efforts, including international support, to respond, prevent and prepare for increasing global food insecurity are urgently needed,

*Stressing* the obligation of all States and parties to an armed conflict to protect civilians, in accordance with international humanitarian law, and calling upon Member States, the United Nations and other relevant organizations to take further steps to provide a coordinated emergency response to the food and nutrition needs of affected populations, while aiming to ensure that such steps are supportive of national strategies and programmes aimed at improving food security and nutrition,

*Reaffirming* that starvation of civilians as a method of combat is prohibited under international humanitarian law and that it is therefore prohibited to attack, destroy, remove or render useless, for that purpose, objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population, such as foodstuffs, agricultural areas for the production of foodstuffs, crops, livestock, drinking water installations and supplies and irrigation works,

*Resolved* to act to ensure that the promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights and the human rights perspective are taken into account at the national, regional and international levels in measures to address the realization of the right to food,

*Stressing* the possible benefits of international trade to improve food and nutrition availability,

*Stressing also* that improving access to productive resources and investment in rural development is essential for eradicating hunger and poverty, in particular in developing countries, through, inter alia, the promotion of investments in appropriate small-scale irrigation and water management technologies in order to reduce vulnerability to droughts and tackle water scarcity, as well as in programmes, practices and policies to scale up sustainable agroecological approaches,

*Expressing its deep concern* at the number and scale of natural disasters, diseases and pest infestations, as well as the negative impact of climate change, and their increasing impact in recent years, which have resulted in substantial loss of life and livelihood and threatened agricultural production and food and nutrition security, in particular in developing countries,

*Concerned* that the impacts of climate change and natural disasters are harming agricultural productivity, food production and cropping patterns, thus contributing to food availability shortfalls, and that such impacts are expected to increase with future climate change,

*Expressing its deep concern* over the negative effects of armed conflicts on the enjoyment of the right to food,

*Emphasizing* that a multisectoral approach that integrates nutrition across all sectors, including agriculture, health, water and sanitation, social protection and education, as well as a gender perspective, is critical to achieving global food and nutrition security and the realization of the right to food,

*Recalling* the endorsement of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security<sup>472</sup> by the Committee on World Food Security at its thirty-eighth session, held on 11 May 2012, and by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its 144th session,

*Recalling also* the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems,<sup>473</sup> which were endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security at its forty-first session, held from 13 to 18 October 2014,

*Stressing* the importance of the Second International Conference on Nutrition, hosted by the World Health Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome from 19 to 21 November 2014, and of its outcome documents, the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action,

*Stressing also* the need to increase official development assistance devoted to agriculture and nutrition,

*Recognizing* that small and medium-sized farmers in developing countries need to receive technical, technology transfer and capacity-building support,

*Recognizing also* the importance of the protection and preservation of agrobiodiversity in guaranteeing food security and nutrition and the right to food for all,

*Noting* the cultural values of dietary and eating habits in different cultures, and recognizing that food plays an important role in defining the identity of individuals and communities and is a cultural component that describes and gives value to a territory and its inhabitants,

*Recognizing* the role of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as the key United Nations agency for rural and agricultural development and its work in supporting the efforts of Member States to achieve the full realization of the right to food, including through its provision of technical assistance to developing countries in support of the implementation of national priority frameworks,

*Recognizing also* the role of the Committee on World Food Security as an inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for a broad range of committed stakeholders to work together in a coordinated manner and in support of country-led processes towards the elimination of hunger and ensuring food security and nutrition for all human beings,

*Acknowledging* the contribution of parliamentarians nationally and regionally to the reduction of hunger and malnutrition and ultimately to the realization of the right to food, and in this regard recognizing the convening of the first Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition, held in Madrid on 29 and 30 October 2018,

*Recalling* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”, and recalling the commitment therein to work together to promote sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development and environmental protection and thereby to benefit all, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution [66/288](#) of 27 July 2012,

*Recalling also* the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030<sup>474</sup> and its guiding principles, which, inter alia, recognize the importance of promoting regular disaster preparedness and response and recovery exercises, with a view to ensuring rapid and effective response to disasters and related displacement, including access to essential food and non-food relief supplies, as appropriate to local needs, as well as of fostering collaboration across global and regional mechanisms and institutions for the implementation and coherence of instruments and tools relevant to disaster risk reduction, such as for climate change, biodiversity, sustainable development, poverty eradication, environment, agriculture, health, food and nutrition and others, as appropriate,

*Recalling further* the proclamation at its seventieth session of 2016–2025 as the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition, and stressing the opportunity the Decade represents to bring together initiatives and efforts to eradicate hunger and prevent all forms of malnutrition,

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<sup>472</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document CL 144/9 (C 2013/20), appendix D.

<sup>473</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2015/20, appendix D.

<sup>474</sup> Resolution [69/283](#), annex II.

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*Acknowledging* the work done by the High-level Task Force on Global Food and Nutrition Security established by the Secretary-General, and supporting the Secretary-General in his continuing efforts in this regard, including continued engagement with Member States and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to food,

1. *Reaffirms* that hunger constitutes an outrage and a violation of human dignity and therefore requires the adoption of urgent measures at the national, regional and international levels for its elimination;

2. *Also reaffirms* the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain his or her physical and mental capacities;

3. *Considers it intolerable* that, as estimated by the United Nations Children's Fund, up to 45 per cent of the children who die every year before the age of 5 die from undernutrition and hunger-related illness and that, as estimated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the number of people in the world affected by undernourishment, or chronic food deprivation, increased from around 804 million in 2016 to nearly 821 million in 2017;

4. *Expresses its concern* at the fact that the effects created by the world food crisis still continue to have serious consequences for the poorest and most vulnerable people, particularly in developing countries, which have been further aggravated by the impacts of the world financial and economic crisis, and at the particular effects of the crisis on many net food-importing countries, especially the least developed countries;

5. *Expresses its deep concern* that, according to the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations entitled *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2018*, the number of hungry people in the world is unacceptably high, the vast majority of hungry people live in developing countries and the number of undernourished people in the world has been on the rise since 2016, reaching an estimated 821 million in 2017;

6. *Also expresses its deep concern* that, while women contribute more than 50 per cent of the food produced worldwide, they also account for 70 per cent of the world's hungry, that women and girls are disproportionately affected by hunger, food insecurity and poverty, in part as a result of gender inequality and discrimination, that in many countries girls are twice as likely as boys to die from malnutrition and preventable childhood diseases, and that it is estimated that almost twice as many women as men suffer from malnutrition;

7. *Encourages* all States to mainstream a gender perspective in food security programmes and to take action to address de jure and de facto gender inequality and discrimination against women, in particular when they contribute to the malnutrition of women and girls, including measures to ensure the full and equal realization of the right to food and that women have equal access to resources, including income, land and water and their ownership and agricultural inputs, as well as full and equal access to health care, education, science and technology, to enable them to feed themselves and their families, and in this regard stresses the need to empower women and strengthen their role in decision-making;

8. *Encourages* the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to food to continue to mainstream a gender perspective in the fulfilment of her mandate, and encourages the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and all other United Nations bodies and mechanisms addressing the right to food and food insecurity and malnutrition to continue to integrate a gender perspective into their relevant policies, programmes and activities;

9. *Reaffirms* the need to ensure that programmes delivering safe and nutritious food are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

10. *Stresses* that the primary responsibility of States is to promote and protect the right to food and that the international community should provide, through a coordinated response and upon request, international cooperation in support of national and regional efforts by providing the assistance necessary to increase food production and access to food, including through agricultural development assistance, the transfer of technology, food crop rehabilitation assistance and food aid, ensuring food security, with special attention to the specific needs of women and girls, and

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promoting innovation, support for the development of adapted technologies, research on rural advisory services and support for access to financing services, and ensure support for the establishment of secure land tenure systems;

11. *Calls upon* all States and, if appropriate, relevant international organizations to take measures and support programmes that are aimed at combating undernutrition in mothers, in particular during pregnancy, and in children, and the irreversible effects of chronic undernutrition in early childhood, in particular from birth to the age of 2 years;

12. *Also calls upon* all States and, where appropriate, relevant international organizations to implement policies and programmes to reduce and eliminate preventable mortality and morbidity, as a result of malnutrition, of children under 5 years of age, and in this regard urges States to disseminate the technical guidance prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in collaboration with the World Health Organization,<sup>475</sup> and to apply it, as appropriate, in the design, implementation, evaluation and monitoring of laws, policies, programmes, budgets and mechanisms for remedy and redress aimed at eliminating preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age;

13. *Encourages* all States to take steps, with a view to progressively achieving the full realization of the right to food, including steps to promote the conditions for everyone to be free from hunger and, as soon as possible, to enjoy fully the right to food, and to create and adopt national plans to combat hunger;

14. *Recognizes* the advances made through South-South cooperation in developing countries and regions in connection with food security and the development of agricultural production for the full realization of the right to food;

15. *Stresses* that improving access to productive resources and public investment in rural development is essential for eradicating hunger and poverty, in particular in developing countries, including through the promotion of investment, including private investment, in appropriate small-scale irrigation and water management technologies in order to reduce vulnerability to droughts and to tackle water scarcity;

16. *Recognizes* the critical contribution made by the fisheries sector to the realization of the right to food and to food security and the contribution of small-scale fishers to the local food security of coastal communities;

17. *Also recognizes* that 70 per cent of hungry people live in rural areas, where nearly half a billion family farmers are located, and that these people are especially vulnerable to food insecurity, given the increasing cost of inputs and the fall in farm incomes; that access to land, water, seeds and other natural resources is an increasing challenge for poor producers; that sustainable and gender-sensitive agricultural policies are important tools for promoting land and agrarian reform, rural credit and insurance, technical assistance and other associated measures to achieve food security and rural development; and that support by States for small farmers, fishing communities and local enterprises, including through the facilitation of access for their products to national and international markets and empowerment of small producers, particularly women, in value chains, is a key element for food security and the provision of the right to food;

18. *Stresses* the importance of fighting hunger in rural areas, including through national efforts supported by international partnerships to stop desertification and land degradation and through investments and public policies that are specifically appropriate to the risk of drylands, and in this regard calls for the full implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;<sup>476</sup>

19. *Urges* States that have not yet done so to favourably consider becoming parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>477</sup> and to consider becoming parties to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture<sup>478</sup> as a matter of priority;

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<sup>475</sup> [A/HRC/27/31](#); see also Human Rights Council resolution [33/11](#) (see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum ([A/71/53/Add.1](#) and [A/71/53/Add.1/Corr.1](#)), chap. II).

<sup>476</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

<sup>477</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>478</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2400, No. 43345.

20. *Recognizes* the important role of indigenous peoples and their traditional knowledge and seed supply systems, as well as the important role of new technologies, in the conservation of biodiversity and in aiming to ensure food security and improved nutrition;

21. *Recalls* the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,<sup>479</sup> acknowledges that many indigenous organizations and representatives of indigenous peoples have expressed in different forums their deep concerns over the obstacles and challenges they face in achieving the full enjoyment of the right to food, and calls upon States to take special actions to combat the root causes of the disproportionately high level of hunger and malnutrition among indigenous peoples and the continuous discrimination against them;

22. *Also recalls* the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, held on 22 and 23 September 2014,<sup>480</sup> and the commitment to developing, in conjunction with the indigenous peoples concerned and where appropriate, policies, programmes and resources to support indigenous peoples' occupations, traditional subsistence activities, economies, livelihoods, food security and nutrition;

23. *Notes* the need to further examine various concepts, such as "food sovereignty", and their relation to food security and the right to food, bearing in mind the need to avoid any negative impact on the enjoyment of the right to food for all people at all times;

24. *Requests* all States and private actors, as well as international organizations, within their respective mandates, to take fully into account the need to promote the effective realization of the right to food for all;

25. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen national commitment, as well as international assistance, upon the request of and in cooperation with the affected countries, towards the full realization and protection of the right to food, and in particular to develop national protection mechanisms for people forced to leave their homes and land because of hunger or humanitarian emergencies affecting their enjoyment of the right to food;

26. *Takes note with appreciation* of the growing movement, in different regions of the world, towards the adoption of framework laws, national strategies and measures in support of the full realization of the right to food for all;

27. *Stresses* the need to make efforts to mobilize and optimize the allocation and utilization of technical and financial resources from all sources, including external debt relief for developing countries, and to reinforce national actions to implement sustainable food security policies;

28. *Calls for* a successful, development-oriented outcome of the trade negotiations of the World Trade Organization, in particular on the remaining issues of the Doha Development Round, as a contribution to the creation of international conditions permitting the full realization of the right to food;

29. *Stresses* that all States should make all efforts to ensure that their international policies of a political and economic nature, including international trade agreements, do not have a negative impact on the right to food in other countries;

30. *Recalls* the importance of the New York Declaration on Action against Hunger and Poverty, and recommends the continuation of efforts aimed at identifying additional sources of financing for the fight against hunger and poverty, as well as non-communicable diseases;

31. *Recognizes* that the promises made at the World Food Summit in 1996 to halve the number of persons who are undernourished are not being fulfilled, while recognizing the efforts of Member States in this regard, and once again invites all international financial and development institutions, as well as the relevant United Nations agencies and funds, to give priority to and provide the funding necessary to realize the right to food, as set out in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security, and to achieve the aims of Goal 2 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>466</sup> and other food and nutrition-related targets;

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<sup>479</sup> Resolution [61/295](#), annex.

<sup>480</sup> Resolution [69/2](#).

32. *Reaffirms* that integrating food and nutritional support, with the goal that all people at all times will have access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life, is part of a comprehensive effort to improve public health, alongside the response to the spread of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other communicable diseases;

33. *Urges* States to give priority in their development strategies and expenditures to the realization of the right to food;

34. *Stresses* the importance of international cooperation and development assistance as an effective contribution to the expansion and improvement of agriculture and its environmental sustainability, food production, breeding projects on diversity of crops and livestock and institutional innovations such as community seed banks, farmer field schools and seed fairs, and to the provision of humanitarian food assistance in activities related to emergency situations for the realization of the right to food and the achievement of sustainable food security, while recognizing that each country has the primary responsibility for ensuring the implementation of national programmes and strategies in this regard;

35. *Also stresses* that States parties to the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights should consider implementing that agreement in a manner that is supportive of food security, while being mindful of the obligation of Member States to promote and protect the right to food;

36. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders to support national efforts aimed at responding rapidly to the food crises currently occurring across different regions, and expresses its deep concern that funding shortfalls are forcing the World Food Programme to cut operations across different regions, including Southern Africa;

37. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations, humanitarian and development organizations and other relevant actors to urgently and effectively respond to, prevent and prepare for rising global food insecurity affecting millions of people, especially those who are facing famine or the immediate risk of famine, including by enhancing humanitarian and development cooperation and providing urgent funding to respond to the needs of the affected population, and calls upon Member States and parties to armed conflicts to respect international humanitarian law and ensure safe and unhindered humanitarian access;

38. *Calls upon* States to heed the urgent United Nations humanitarian appeal to assist countries facing drought, starvation and famine with emergency aid and urgent funding;

39. *Invites* all relevant international organizations, including the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, to continue to promote policies and projects that have a positive impact on the right to food, to ensure that partners respect the right to food in the implementation of common projects, to support strategies of Member States aimed at the fulfilment of the right to food and to avoid any actions that could have a negative impact on its realization;

40. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur,<sup>481</sup> which addresses the rights of agricultural workers on a global scale, with particular attention to the dangerous working conditions inherent in the agricultural sector, which not only threaten the lives of agricultural workers but also undermine their right to food;

41. *Recognizes* the importance of giving due consideration to the adverse impact of climate change and to the full realization of the right to food, recalls the Paris Agreement, adopted at the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Paris from 30 November to 13 December 2015,<sup>482</sup> and also recalls the holding of the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties in Marrakech, Morocco, from 7 to 18 November 2016;

42. *Also recognizes* the impact of climate change and of the El Niño phenomenon on agricultural production and food security around the world and the importance of designing and implementing actions to reduce its effects, in particular on vulnerable populations, such as rural women, bearing in mind the role that they play in supporting their households and communities in achieving food and nutrition security, generating income and improving rural livelihoods and overall well-being;

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<sup>481</sup> A/73/164.

<sup>482</sup> FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.



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43. *Reiterates its support* for the realization of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur, and requests the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide all the human and financial resources necessary for its effective fulfilment;

44. *Welcomes* the work already done by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in promoting the right to adequate food, in particular its general comment No. 12 (1999) on the right to adequate food (article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights),<sup>483</sup> in which the Committee affirmed, *inter alia*, that the right to adequate food is indivisibly linked to the inherent dignity of the human person, indispensable for the fulfilment of other human rights enshrined in the International Bill of Human Rights and inseparable from social justice, requiring the adoption of appropriate economic, environmental and social policies, at both the national and the international levels, oriented to the eradication of poverty and the fulfilment of all human rights for all;

45. *Recalls* general comment No. 15 (2002) of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the right to water (articles 11 and 12 of the Covenant),<sup>484</sup> in which the Committee noted, *inter alia*, the importance of ensuring sustainable access to water resources for human consumption and agriculture in realization of the right to adequate food;

46. *Reaffirms* that the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in November 2004,<sup>489</sup> represent a useful tool to promote the realization of the right to food for all, contribute to the achievement of food security and thus provide an additional instrument in the attainment of internationally agreed development goals and to support national Governments in the implementation of food security and nutrition policies, programmes and legal frameworks;

47. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in her task, to supply all necessary information requested by her and to give serious consideration to responding favourably to the requests of the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries to enable her to fulfil her mandate more effectively;

48. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session an interim report on the implementation of the present resolution and to continue her work, including by examining the emerging issues with regard to the realization of the right to food that are within her mandate;

49. *Invites* Governments, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, treaty bodies, civil society actors and non-governmental organizations, as well as the private sector, to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of her mandate through, *inter alia*, the submission of comments and suggestions on ways and means of realizing the right to food;

50. *Decides* to continue the consideration of the question at its seventy-fourth session under the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”.

### RESOLUTION 73/172

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.2, para. 162),<sup>485</sup> by a recorded vote of 125 to none, with 60 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia,

<sup>483</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/2000/22 and E/2000/22/Corr.1), annex V.

<sup>484</sup> *Ibid.*, 2003, *Supplement No. 2* (E/2003/22), annex IV.

<sup>485</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, China, Comoros, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Tonga, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

### 73/172. Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>486</sup> which guarantees the right to life, liberty and security of person, the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>487</sup> and other relevant human rights conventions,

*Reaffirming* the mandate of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, as set out in Council resolution 35/15 of 22 June 2017,<sup>488</sup>

*Welcoming* the universal ratification of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,<sup>489</sup> which, alongside international human rights law, provide important legal frameworks of accountability in relation to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions during armed conflict,

*Recalling* all its resolutions on the subject of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions as well as the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council on the subject, and emphasizing the importance of their full and effective implementation,

*Recognizing* the positive role that regional human rights systems can play in the global protection against arbitrary deprivation of life,

*Acknowledging* the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>490</sup> and its implementation for the promotion and protection of the enjoyment by all persons of human rights, gender equality, access to justice for all and effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels,

*Noting with deep concern* that impunity continues to be a major cause of the perpetuation of violations of human rights, including extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, especially with regard to the gender-related killing of women and girls, also known as femicide,

*Noting* that enforced disappearances can end in extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, recalling the importance in this regard of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,<sup>491</sup> and calling upon all States which have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention,

<sup>486</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>487</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>488</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/72/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>489</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

<sup>490</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>491</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2716, No. 48088.

*Acknowledging* that international human rights law and international humanitarian law are complementary and mutually reinforcing,

*Noting with deep concern* the growing number of civilians and persons hors de combat killed in situations of armed conflict and internal strife, and that women and girls are disproportionately affected by conflict, as recognized in Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women and peace and security and subsequent resolutions on the matter,

*Noting with deep concern also* the continuing instances of the arbitrary deprivation of life, resulting from, inter alia, the imposition and implementation of capital punishment when carried out in a manner that violates international law,

*Recalling* the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules)<sup>492</sup> and the adoption of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),<sup>493</sup>

*Deeply concerned* about acts that can amount to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions committed against persons exercising their rights to peaceful assembly and freedom of expression in all regions of the world,

*Deeply concerned also* about killings committed by non-State actors, including terrorist groups and criminal organizations, which may amount to abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law,

*Acknowledging* that extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions may under certain circumstances amount to genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, as defined in international law, including in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,<sup>494</sup> and recalling in this regard that each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from such crimes, as set out by the General Assembly in its resolutions 60/1 of 16 September 2005 and 63/308 of 14 September 2009,

*Convinced* of the need for effective action to prevent, combat and eliminate the abhorrent practice of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, which represent flagrant violations of international human rights law, particularly the right to life, as well as of international humanitarian law,

1. *Reiterates its strong condemnation* of all the extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions that continue to occur throughout the world;

2. *Demands* that all States ensure that the practice of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions is brought to an end and that they take effective action to prevent, combat and eliminate the phenomenon in all its forms and manifestations;

3. *Reiterates* that all States must conduct prompt, exhaustive and impartial investigations, exercising due diligence, into all suspected cases of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, identify and bring to justice those responsible, while ensuring the right of every person to a fair hearing by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal established by law, grant adequate compensation within a reasonable time to the victims or their families and adopt all measures, including legal and judicial measures, also bearing in mind gender equality in access to justice, necessary to put an end to impunity, particularly with regard to the gender-related killing of women and girls, also known as femicide, and extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions of refugees and migrants and humanitarian workers, and prevent the further occurrence of such executions, as recommended in the Principles on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extralegal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions,<sup>495</sup> fully consistent with their obligations under international law;

4. *Calls upon* Governments, and invites intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to pay greater attention to the work of national-level commissions of inquiry into extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, with a view to ensuring the effective contribution of these commissions to accountability and to combating impunity;

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<sup>492</sup> Resolution 65/229, annex.

<sup>493</sup> Resolution 70/175, annex.

<sup>494</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

<sup>495</sup> Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/65, annex.

5. *Calls upon* all States, in order to prevent extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, to comply with their obligations under the relevant provisions of international human rights instruments, and also calls upon States which retain the death penalty to pay particular regard to the provisions contained in articles 6, 14 and 15 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>496</sup> and articles 37 and 40 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>496</sup> bearing in mind the safeguards and guarantees set out in Economic and Social Council resolutions 1984/50 of 25 May 1984 and 1989/64 of 24 May 1989 and taking into account the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions in reports to the Council and the General Assembly, including the report submitted to the Assembly at its sixty-seventh session,<sup>497</sup> regarding the need to respect all safeguards and restrictions, including limitation to the most serious crimes, stringent respect of due process and fair trial safeguards and the right to seek pardon or commutation of sentence;

6. *Emphasizes* that to prevent extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions States should take necessary steps to adopt such laws or other measures as may be necessary to give effect to the right to life in accordance with international law and that everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law;

7. *Urges* all States:

(a) To take all measures required by international human rights law and international humanitarian law to prevent loss of life, in particular that of children, during detention, arrest, public demonstrations, internal and communal violence, civil unrest, public emergencies or armed conflicts and to ensure that the police, law enforcement agents, armed forces and other agents acting on behalf of or with the consent or acquiescence of the State, including private security providers, act with restraint and in conformity with international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including the principles of proportionality and necessity, and in this regard to ensure that police and law enforcement officials are guided by the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials<sup>498</sup> and the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials;<sup>499</sup>

(b) To ensure the effective protection of the right to life of all persons, to conduct, when required by obligations under international law, prompt, exhaustive and impartial investigations into all killings, including those targeted at specific groups of persons, such as racially motivated violence leading to the death of the victim, killings of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities or because of their sexual orientation or gender identity, killings of persons affected by terrorism or hostage-taking or living under foreign occupation, killings of refugees, internally displaced persons, migrants, street children or members of indigenous communities, killings of persons for reasons related to their activities as human rights defenders, lawyers, journalists or demonstrators, killings committed in the name of passion or in the name of honour and killings committed for discriminatory reasons on any basis, to bring those responsible to justice before a competent, independent and impartial judiciary at the national or, where appropriate, international level and to ensure that such killings, including those committed by security forces, police and law enforcement agents, paramilitary groups or private forces, are neither condoned nor sanctioned by State officials or personnel;

8. *Affirms* the obligation of States, in order to prevent extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, to protect the lives of all persons deprived of their liberty in all circumstances and to investigate and respond to deaths in custody;

9. *Encourages* States, taking into account the relevant recommendations of the United Nations and of regional human rights systems, to review, where necessary, their domestic laws and practices with regard to the use of force in law enforcement in order to ensure that these laws and practices are in conformity with their international obligations and commitments;

10. *Also encourages* States to make appropriate protective equipment and less lethal weapons available to their officials exercising law enforcement duties, while pursuing efforts to regulate and establish protocols for the training and use of less lethal weapons and in this regard strengthening international cooperation;

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<sup>496</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>497</sup> [A/67/275](#).

<sup>498</sup> Resolution 34/169, annex.

<sup>499</sup> See *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August–7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. B.

11. *Further encourages* States to accelerate the work on fulfilling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>490</sup> bearing in mind the importance of the full enjoyment of human rights and access to justice for all and effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, as well as the systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective;

12. *Urges* all States to ensure that all persons deprived of their liberty are treated humanely and with full respect for international law and that their treatment, including judicial guarantees and conditions, conforms to, as appropriate, the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),<sup>493</sup> as well as the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules)<sup>492</sup> and, where applicable, the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949<sup>489</sup> and the Additional Protocols thereto of 8 June 1977,<sup>500</sup> as well as other pertinent international instruments;

13. *Welcomes* the International Criminal Court as an important contribution to ending impunity concerning extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, and, noting the growing awareness of the Court worldwide, as highlighted during the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute of the Court,<sup>494</sup> calls upon those States that are under an obligation to cooperate with the Court to provide such cooperation and assistance in the future, in particular with regard to arrest and surrender, the provision of evidence, the protection and relocation of victims and witnesses and the enforcement of sentences, also welcomes the fact that 123 States have ratified or acceded to and 138 States have signed the Rome Statute, and calls upon all those States that have not ratified or acceded to the Rome Statute and the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court<sup>501</sup> to give serious consideration to doing so;

14. *Acknowledges* the importance of ensuring the protection of witnesses for the prosecution of those suspected of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, urges States to intensify efforts to establish and implement effective witness protection programmes or other measures, and in this regard encourages the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to develop practical tools, including gender-sensitive tools, designed to encourage and facilitate greater attention to the protection of witnesses;

15. *Encourages* Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to organize training programmes and to support projects with a view to training or educating military forces, law enforcement officers and government officials, as well as private personnel acting on behalf of the State, in international humanitarian and human rights law connected with their work, to include a gender and child rights perspective in such training and to require, where appropriate, that all private security providers have vetting and training procedures in place, including mandatory appropriate weapons training, that include human rights norms and principles, and appeals to the international community and requests the Office of the High Commissioner to support endeavours to that end;

16. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Special Rapporteur to the General Assembly<sup>502</sup> and the Human Rights Council, and invites States to take due consideration of the recommendations contained therein;

17. *Commends* the important role that the Special Rapporteur plays in the elimination of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue, within the mandate, to collect information, including data disaggregated by sex, from all concerned, to respond effectively to reliable information that comes before him or her, to follow up on communications and country visits and to seek the views and comments of Governments and to reflect them, as appropriate, in reports;

18. *Acknowledges* the important role of the Special Rapporteur in identifying cases where extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions could amount to genocide and crimes against humanity or war crimes, and urges the Special Rapporteur to collaborate with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and, as appropriate, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide in addressing situations of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions that are of particularly serious concern or in which early action might prevent further deterioration;

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<sup>490</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

<sup>491</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2271, No. 40446.

<sup>492</sup> See [A/72/335](#) and [A/73/314](#).



## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

19. *Welcomes* the cooperation established between the Special Rapporteur and other United Nations mechanisms and procedures in the field of human rights, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue efforts in that regard;

20. *Urges* all States, in particular those that have not done so, to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur so that the mandate can be carried out effectively, including by favourably and rapidly responding to requests for visits, mindful that country visits are one of the essential tools for the fulfilment of the mandate, and by responding in a timely manner to communications and other requests transmitted to them by the Special Rapporteur;

21. *Strongly urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of national and international humanitarian personnel;

22. *Expresses its appreciation* to those States that have received the Special Rapporteur, asks them to examine the Special Rapporteur's recommendations carefully, invites them to inform the Special Rapporteur of the actions taken on those recommendations, and requests other States to cooperate in a similar way;

23. *Once again requests* the Secretary-General to continue to use his best endeavours in cases where the minimum standards of legal safeguards provided for in articles 6, 9, 14 and 15 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights appear not to have been respected;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with adequate human, financial and material resources to enable her to carry out the mandate effectively, including through country visits;

25. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue, in close collaboration with the High Commissioner and in conformity with the mandate of the High Commissioner, established by the General Assembly in its resolution [48/141](#) of 20 December 1993, to ensure that personnel specialized in international humanitarian and human rights law, including in provisions related to gender equality, form part of United Nations missions, where appropriate, in order to deal with serious violations of human rights, such as extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions;

26. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-fourth and seventy-fifth sessions, a report on the situation worldwide with regard to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and recommendations for more effective action to combat this phenomenon;

27. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-fifth session.

### RESOLUTION 73/173

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/589/Add.2](#), para. 162),<sup>503</sup> by a recorded vote of 154 to none, with 35 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea,

<sup>503</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.



Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Algeria, Bahrain, Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Palau, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen

**73/173. Promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the rights to peaceful assembly and freedom of association**

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>504</sup> the International Covenants on Human Rights<sup>505</sup> and other relevant instruments,

*Recalling* its resolution [53/144](#) of 9 December 1998, by which it adopted by consensus the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, commonly referred to as the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, and all its subsequent resolutions on this subject, including its resolutions [66/164](#) of 19 December 2011, [68/181](#) of 18 December 2013, [70/161](#) of 17 December 2015 and [72/247](#) of 24 December 2017, and recalling also all United Nations resolutions related to the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association and all resolutions of the Human Rights Council on human rights defenders, civil society space, safety of journalists, equal political participation, promotion and protection of human rights in the context of peaceful protests and the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association,

*Noting* that 2018 marks the seventieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action<sup>506</sup> and the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, and acknowledging the importance of these instruments for the promotion and the protection of all human rights,

*Bearing in mind* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

*Reaffirming* that everyone has the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association and that no one may be compelled to belong to an association,

*Recognizing* that the effective exercise of the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association is essential for the enjoyment of other human rights and freedoms and constitutes a fundamental pillar for building a democratic society and strengthening democracy, as it provides individuals with invaluable opportunities to, inter alia, express their political opinions, engage in literary and artistic pursuits and other cultural, economic and social activities, engage in religious observances or other beliefs, form and join trade unions and cooperatives and elect leaders to represent their interests and hold them accountable,

*Recalling* the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly, of expression and of association, which encompass organizing, participating in, observing, monitoring and recording assemblies, and expressing concern at the criminalization, in all parts of the world, of individuals and groups solely for having organized, taken part in or observed, monitored or recorded peaceful protests,

*Recognizing* that transparent, responsible, accountable, open and participatory government, responsive to the needs and aspirations of the people, is the foundation on which good governance rests and that such a foundation

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<sup>504</sup> Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

<sup>505</sup> Resolution [2200 A \(XXI\)](#), annex.

<sup>506</sup> [A/CONF.157/24 \(Part I\)](#), chap. III.

is one of the indispensable conditions for the full realization of human rights, including the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly, of association and of expression,

*Stressing*, therefore, that everyone, including persons espousing minority or dissenting views or beliefs, must be able to express his or her grievances or aspirations in a peaceful manner, including through public protests, without fear of reprisal or of being intimidated, harassed, injured, sexually assaulted, beaten, arbitrarily arrested and detained, tortured, killed or subjected to enforced disappearance,

*Encouraging* all States to avoid using force wherever possible during peaceful protests and to ensure that, where force is absolutely necessary, no one is subjected to excessive or indiscriminate use of force,

*Gravely concerned* by the grave and growing threats, risks and dangers faced by all individuals, online and offline, for exercising their rights to freedom of peaceful assembly, of expression and of association, particularly members of civil society, including but not limited to human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders, indigenous human rights defenders and those addressing environmental issues, and those defending persons belonging to minorities, including religious minorities, as well as those defending youth, persons with disabilities and older persons, labour leaders, individuals who may face multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, including on the basis of gender, and journalists and media workers who report on their work, as well as by the prevalence of impunity for violations and abuses against them in many countries, where they face threats, harassment and attacks and suffer insecurity, including through undue restrictions on, inter alia, the rights to freedom of opinion, of expression, of association and of peaceful assembly, and through the abuse of criminal or civil proceedings, or acts of intimidation and reprisal intended to prevent their cooperation with the United Nations and other international bodies in the field of human rights,

*Stressing* the responsibility of Member States and encouraging stakeholders in all sectors of society and in their respective communities, including Governments and their representatives, with respect to all individuals exercising their rights to freedom of peaceful assembly, of expression and of association, online and offline, in cases of threat, harassment, violence, discrimination, racism and other violations and abuses committed against them, including killings, to categorically and clearly reject such practices and offences,

*Reiterating* that domestic law and administrative provisions and their application should not hinder but enable the work of human rights defenders, including by avoiding any criminalization, stigmatization, impediments, obstructions or restrictions thereof contrary to the obligations of States under international human rights law,

*Deploing* violations and abuses of the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association by State and non-State actors, including arbitrary detentions of peaceful protestors and individuals on the basis of their political opinion and affiliation, as well as individuals identified as political opponents,

1. *Calls upon* States to promote a safe and enabling environment for individuals and groups to exercise their rights to freedom of peaceful assembly, of expression and of association, including by ensuring that domestic legislation and procedures relating to the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly, of expression and of association are in conformity with their international human rights obligations;

2. *Urges* States to take concrete steps to prevent and put an end to the arbitrary arrest and detention of peaceful protestors and human rights defenders for exercising their human rights and fundamental freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association, including in relation to cooperation with the United Nations and other international mechanisms in the area of human rights, and in this regard strongly urges the release of such persons detained or imprisoned in violation of the obligations of States under international human rights law;

3. *Expresses deep concern* about extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and the torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of persons exercising their rights to freedom of peaceful assembly, of expression and of association in all regions of the world, and to this end:

(a) Strongly condemns the use of harassment, intimidation and extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and killings by State and non-State actors to violently suppress and silence individuals, including young people and students, for participating in peaceful protests, including protests to call for democratic reforms;

(b) Urges States to pay particular attention to the safety and protection of women and women human rights defenders from acts of intimidation and harassment, as well as gender-based violence, including sexual assault, in the context of peaceful protests;

(c) Calls upon all States to pay particular attention to the safety of journalists and media workers observing, monitoring and recording peaceful protests, taking into account their specific role, exposure and vulnerability;

(d) Urges States to end their harassment and intimidation of and attacks against individuals participating in peaceful protests against racism and racial discrimination;

4. *Calls upon* all States to ensure that the same rights that individuals have offline, including the rights to freedom of expression, of peaceful assembly and of association, are also fully protected online, in accordance with human rights law, particularly by refraining from Internet shutdowns and content restrictions on the Internet that violate international human rights law, by ending attacks by States and taking steps to end attacks by non-State actors against journalists and other media workers covering demonstrations and protests and by ending government shutdowns of media outlets for attempting to report on such protests, and condemns unequivocally and calls for an end to all attacks and violence by State and non-State actors against journalists and media workers, including through attacks on, or the forced closure of, their offices and media outlets, in both conflict and non-conflict situations, in particular for journalists and media outlets covering or attempting to cover demonstrations and protests;

5. *Condemns* the use by State and non-State actors of slander, threats and attacks against members of civil society, including against religious leaders, including when they are attempting to use their good offices to mediate between the State and individuals trying to exercise their right to peacefully assemble;

6. *Encourages* States to support the implementation of policies and initiatives that promote tolerance, cultural integration and inclusion and respect for diversity, to end the persecution and repression of civil society and social movements and to recognize the important and legitimate role that they play in shaping governance and the rule of law, inclusiveness and development across all regions;

7. *Underlines* the necessity of addressing the management of assemblies, including peaceful protests, so as to contribute to their peaceful conduct and prevent injuries and loss of life among protestors, those observing, monitoring and recording such assemblies, bystanders and officials exercising law enforcement duties, and urges States to ensure accountability for human rights violations and abuses through judicial or other national mechanisms, based on law and in conformity with their international human rights obligations and commitments, and to provide all victims with access to remedy and redress, including in the context of peaceful protests;

8. *Urges* States to acknowledge, through public statements, policies, programmes and laws, the important and legitimate role of individuals, groups and organs of society in the promotion of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association.

## RESOLUTION 73/174

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.2, para. 162)<sup>507</sup>

### 73/174. Terrorism and human rights

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>508</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights<sup>509</sup> and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>509</sup> and other relevant international human rights instruments,

*Recalling* all relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council concerning human rights and terrorism, the most recent of which are Assembly

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<sup>507</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, Nigeria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Uruguay.

<sup>508</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>509</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

resolutions [72/180](#) of 19 December 2017 and [72/246](#) of 24 December 2017, and Human Rights Council resolutions [34/8](#) of 23 March 2017,<sup>510</sup> [35/34](#) of 23 June 2017<sup>511</sup> and [37/27](#) of 23 March 2018,<sup>512</sup>

*Emphasizing* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

*Reaffirming* the obligation of States to respect all human rights and fundamental freedoms and the fundamental importance of respecting the rule of law,

*Reaffirming also* its unequivocal condemnation of all acts, methods and practices of terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, regardless of their motivation, and of the financial, material or political support of terrorism as unjustifiable in accordance with applicable international law,

*Renewing* its unwavering commitment to strengthening international cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism in all their forms and manifestations, while stressing that terrorism can only be defeated by a sustained and comprehensive approach involving the active participation and collaboration of all States and international and regional organizations,

*Reaffirming* the primary responsibility of States to protect the population throughout their territory, and recalling in this regard that all parties to armed conflict must comply fully with obligations applicable to them under international humanitarian law related to the protection of civilians and medical personnel in armed conflict,

*Recognizing* that terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism have a detrimental effect on the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and impede the full enjoyment of political, civil, economic, social and cultural rights, and that they pose a threat to the territorial integrity and security of States, the stability of Governments, the rule of law and democracy and, ultimately, to the functioning of societies and international peace and security,

*Emphasizing* that terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group, and that tolerance, pluralism, inclusion and respect for diversity, dialogue among civilizations and the enhancement of interfaith and intercultural understanding and respect among people, including at the national, regional and global levels, while combating the escalation of hatred, are among the most important elements in the promotion of cooperation and success in preventing and combating terrorism, and welcoming the various initiatives to that end,

*Reaffirming* that States must ensure that any measure taken to counter terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism complies with international law, in particular international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law,

*Reaffirming also* its commitment to the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its four pillars, as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution [60/288](#) of 8 September 2006, which reaffirm, inter alia, respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as being the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism, and its sixth review, as taken note of in General Assembly resolution [72/284](#) of 26 June 2018,

*Reaffirming further* that the promotion and the protection of human rights for all and the rule of law are essential to the fight against terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism, and recognizing that effective counter-terrorism measures and the protection of human rights are not conflicting goals but are complementary and mutually reinforcing,

*Expressing its grave concern* at the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters and at the threat it poses to all States, including countries of origin, transit and destination, and encouraging all States to address this threat by enhancing their cooperation and developing relevant measures to tackle this phenomenon, in accordance

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<sup>510</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/72/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>511</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>512</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/73/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

with their obligations under international law, including international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law,

*Deplores* attacks on religious places and shrines and cultural sites that violate international law, in particular international human rights law and international humanitarian law, as applicable, including all deliberate destruction of relics, monuments or religious sites,

*Strongly condemning* the recruitment and use of children to perpetrate terrorist attacks and all violations and abuses committed by terrorist groups against children and women, including killing and maiming, abduction and rape and other forms of sexual violence, and noting that such violations and abuses may amount to war crimes or crimes against humanity,

*Deeply deploring* the suffering caused by terrorism to the victims and their families, and, while stressing the need to promote and protect the rights of victims of terrorism, in particular women and children, reaffirming its profound solidarity with them and stressing the importance of providing them with proper support and assistance while respecting, inter alia, considerations regarding remembrance, dignity, respect, accountability, truth and justice, in accordance with international law,

*Expressing deep concern* that acts of sexual and gender-based violence are known to be part of the strategic objectives and ideology of certain terrorist groups and are used as an instrument to increase their power through supporting financing and recruitment and through the destruction of communities,

*Recognizing* that countering terrorism requires a comprehensive approach and a multidimensional strategy to tackle the factors underlying terrorism,

*Recognizing also* the difficulties faced by the international community in addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism and violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, and urging Member States and the United Nations system to take measures, pursuant to international law and while ensuring national ownership, to address all drivers of violent extremism conducive to terrorism, both internal and external, in a balanced manner,

*Conscious* that there are a number of drivers underlying radicalization to terrorism, and that development based on the principles of social justice, inclusion and equal opportunities can contribute to the prevention of terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism and to the promotion of inclusive, open and resilient societies, notably through education, and affirming the determination of States to work towards conflict resolution, to confront oppression, to eradicate poverty, to promote sustained economic growth, sustainable development, global prosperity, good governance, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and the rule of law, to improve intercultural understanding and to promote respect for all,

1. *Strongly condemns* all terrorist acts as criminal and unjustifiable, and expresses grave concern at their detrimental effects on the enjoyment of all human rights;

2. *Reaffirms* that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law;

3. *Expresses concern* that terrorists and terrorist groups have targeted communities and individuals, as well as Governments, including on the basis of religion or belief and/or ethnicity;

4. *Stresses* the responsibility of States to protect persons in their territory against such acts, in full compliance with their obligations under international law, and in particular international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law;

5. *Expresses serious concern* at the violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms and of international refugee law and international humanitarian law in the context of countering terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism;

6. *Reaffirms* its commitment to the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and a balanced and integrated implementation of its four pillars, as adopted in its resolution 60/288, and at its sixth review, and recognizes the need to redouble efforts for even attention paid to and even implementation of all the pillars of the strategy;

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7. *Also reaffirms* its profound solidarity with the victims of terrorism and their families, acknowledges the importance of protecting their rights and providing them with proper support, assistance and rehabilitation while taking into account, when appropriate, considerations regarding remembrance, dignity, respect, justice and truth in such a way that promotes accountability and ends impunity, and encourages the enhancement of international cooperation and the exchange of expertise in that respect, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations;

8. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring access to justice and accountability, and calls upon States to ensure that any person who alleges that his or her human rights or fundamental freedoms have been violated by measures taken or means employed to counter terrorism or violent extremism conducive to terrorism has access to justice, due process and an effective remedy, and that victims of human rights violations and abuses receive adequate, effective and prompt remedy and reparations, which should include, as appropriate, restitution, compensation, rehabilitation and guarantees of non-repetition as a fundamental basis of any strategy to counter terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism;

9. *Also stresses* the importance of developing and maintaining effective, fair, humane, transparent and accountable criminal justice systems in a manner that fully respects the rights to equality and non-discrimination in the administration of justice, to a fair and public hearing by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal, to a review of detention and to the presumption of innocence and other fundamental judicial guarantees, such as due process, in accordance with their obligations under international law, including international human rights law, international humanitarian law and international refugee law;

10. *Urges* States to fully comply with their obligations under international law while countering terrorism, in particular international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law, with regard to the absolute prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

11. *Also urges* States to take all steps necessary to ensure the right of anyone arrested or detained on a criminal charge to be brought promptly before a judge or other officer authorized by law to exercise judicial power and the entitlement to trial within a reasonable time or release;

12. *Further urges* States to safeguard the work of civil society by ensuring that counter-terrorism laws and measures are consistent with and are applied in a manner that fully respects human rights, particularly the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association;

13. *Urges* States to ensure that measures taken to counter terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism are not discriminatory, and not to resort to profiling based on stereotypes founded on ethnic, racial or religious grounds or any other ground of discrimination prohibited by international law;

14. *Also urges* States to ensure, in accordance with their obligations under international law and national regulations, and whenever international humanitarian law is applicable, that counter-terrorism legislation and measures do not impede humanitarian and medical activities or engagement with all relevant actors as foreseen by international humanitarian law;

15. *Recognizes* the important role of religious leaders and institutions, local communities and community leaders in promoting tolerance and in preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism;

16. *Also recognizes* the important role of women in preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism, and requests States to consider, when appropriate, the impact of counter-terrorism strategies on women's and children's human rights, and to seek consultations with their respective organizations when developing strategies to counter terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism;

17. *Urges* States to ensure that gender equality and non-discrimination are taken into account when shaping, reviewing and implementing all counter-terrorism measures and to promote the full and effective participation of women in these processes;

18. *Also urges* States to take measures to ensure that counter-terrorism laws and implementing measures are consistent with and are applied in a manner that fully respects the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of



Human Rights<sup>508</sup> and the obligations of States under international human rights law, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>509</sup> with a view to ensuring respect for the principles of legal certainty and legality;

19. *Strongly condemns* terrorist acts and all acts of violence committed by terrorist groups, including trafficking in persons, kidnapping and hostage-taking with demands for ransom and/or political concessions, and the continued systematic and widespread abuses of human rights perpetrated by such groups, and calls upon all Member States to prevent terrorists from benefiting from ransom payment and political concessions and to secure the safe release of hostages, in accordance with applicable legal obligations, while noting the initiatives in this regard, including the Algiers Memorandum on Good Practices on Preventing and Denying the Benefits of Kidnapping for Ransom by Terrorists;

20. *Urges* States to do all they can, in accordance with their obligations under international law, to prevent any political, material or financial support from reaching terrorist groups, to deny terrorists safe haven, freedom of operation, movement and recruitment and to criminalize the wilful provision or collection by any means, directly or indirectly, of funds by their nationals or in their territories with the intention that the funds be used, or with the knowledge that they are to be used, by terrorist groups for any purpose, and to bring to justice or, where appropriate, extradite the perpetrators of terrorist acts or any person who supports, facilitates or participates, or attempts to participate, in the financing, planning or preparation of terrorist acts;

21. *Calls upon* States to refrain from providing support to entities or persons involved in terrorist acts, including support in establishing propaganda platforms advocating hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, including through the Internet and other media, and emphasizes in this regard the key importance of full respect for the right to freedom of opinion and expression as set out in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

22. *Urges* States to adopt rehabilitation and reintegration strategies for returning foreign terrorist fighters, in line with good practices, such as those set out in the Hague-Marrakech Memorandum on Good Practices for a More Effective Response to the Foreign Terrorist Fighter Phenomenon of the Global Counterterrorism Forum, and to adopt a comprehensive approach that includes, inter alia, the development of national centres for counsel and the prevention of radicalization to violence, which can play an important role together with criminal justice responses;

23. *Renews its commitment* to strengthening international cooperation to prevent and counter terrorism in accordance with international law, including the Charter, international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including through technical cooperation, capacity-building and the exchange of information and intelligence on countering terrorism, and in that regard calls upon States and relevant regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate, to continue to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its four pillars;

24. *Strongly encourages* relevant United Nations agencies, including those involved in supporting counter-terrorism efforts, to take into account in their technical assistance with regard to counter-terrorism efforts, whenever appropriate, the elements necessary for building national capacity in order to strengthen criminal justice systems and the rule of law and to continue to facilitate the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, due process and the rule of law, while countering terrorism;

25. *Requests* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism in the performance of her mandated tasks and duties;

26. *Urges* States and the international community and encourages civil society to take measures, as appropriate, including through education, awareness-raising, the media and human rights education and training, to promote a culture of peace, justice and human development, ethnic, national and religious tolerance and respect for all religions, religious values, beliefs and cultures and to effectively address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism and that make individuals and groups more vulnerable to the effects of terrorism and to recruitment by terrorists;

27. *Emphasizes* that mutual respect, tolerance, pluralism, inclusion and respect for diversity, dialogue among civilizations and the enhancement of interfaith and intercultural understanding, and combating intolerance, discrimination and hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence on the basis of religion or

belief, or any other basis, including at the national, regional or global levels, are among the most important elements in promoting cooperation and success in preventing and combating terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism, and welcomes the various initiatives to that end;

28. *Acknowledges* that the active participation of civil society organizations can strengthen ongoing governmental efforts to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism and to assess the impact of terrorism on the enjoyment of all human rights, and calls upon States to ensure that measures to counter terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism and to preserve national security do not hinder the work and safety of such organizations and are in compliance with the obligations of States under international law, in particular international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law;

29. *Urges* States to safeguard the right to privacy in accordance with international law, in particular international human rights law, and to take measures to ensure that interference with or restriction of that right are not arbitrary, are adequately regulated by law and are subject to effective oversight and appropriate redress, including through judicial review or other means;

30. *Calls upon* Member States to remain alert to the use of information and communications technology for terrorist purposes and to cooperate to prevent and counter violent extremist propaganda and incitement to violence on the Internet and social media, including by developing effective counter-narratives, and to prevent terrorists from recruiting and raising funds online for terrorist purposes, while respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, in compliance with their obligations under international law, and stresses the importance of cooperation with civil society and the private sector in this endeavour;

31. *Expresses its concern* at the increasing use, in a globalized society, by terrorists and their supporters, of information and communications technology, in particular the Internet and other media, to advocate, commit, incite, recruit for, fund or plan terrorist acts, urges States to take appropriate preventive measures in this regard while acting in full compliance with their obligations under international law, and reiterates that such technologies can be powerful tools in countering the spread of terrorism, including by promoting tolerance, dialogue among peoples and peace;

32. *Invites* all treaty bodies, special procedure mandate holders, international and regional human rights mechanisms and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, within their respective mandates, to pay due attention to the negative impact of terrorism on the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and on alleged violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism, and to report regularly to the Human Rights Council;

33. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism to continue to contribute to the work of the Office of Counter-Terrorism through, inter alia, participation in the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact;

34. *Encourages* the Security Council, the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate to strengthen, within their mandates, the links, cooperation and dialogue with relevant human rights bodies, giving due regard to the promotion and protection of human rights and the rule of law in their ongoing work relating to counter-terrorism;

35. *Encourages* relevant United Nations bodies and entities, in particular those participating in the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact and international, regional and subregional organizations, which provide technical assistance upon request, to step up their efforts to ensure respect for international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law, as well as the rule of law, as an element of technical assistance, including in the adoption and implementation of legislative and other measures by States;

36. *Calls upon* international, regional and subregional organizations to strengthen information-sharing, coordination and cooperation in promoting the protection of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law while countering terrorism;

37. *Requests* the Secretary-General to also consider the implementation of the present resolution in the preparation of the report to be presented to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, as requested in its resolution [72/180](#).

## RESOLUTION 73/175

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.2, para. 162),<sup>513</sup> by a recorded vote of 121 to 35, with 32 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:* Afghanistan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, Grenada, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Maldives, Nauru, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, Yemen, Zimbabwe

*Abstaining:* Antigua and Barbuda, Belarus, Cameroon, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Nigeria, Philippines, Republic of Korea, South Sudan, Thailand, Tonga, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia

### 73/175. Moratorium on the use of the death penalty

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided by the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations,*

*Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>514</sup> the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>515</sup> and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>516</sup>*

*Recalling the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty,<sup>517</sup> and in this regard welcoming the increasing number of accessions to and ratifications of the Second Optional Protocol,*

*Recalling also its resolutions 62/149 of 18 December 2007, 63/168 of 18 December 2008, 65/206 of 21 December 2010, 67/176 of 20 December 2012, 69/186 of 18 December 2014 and 71/187 of 19 December 2016 on the question of a moratorium on the use of the death penalty, in which the General Assembly called upon States that still maintain the death penalty to establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing it,*

*Recalling further all relevant decisions and resolutions of the Human Rights Council, the most recent of which was resolution 36/17 of 29 September 2017,<sup>518</sup>*

*Mindful that any miscarriage or failure of justice in the implementation of the death penalty is irreversible and irreparable,*

<sup>513</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

<sup>514</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>515</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>516</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>517</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1642, No. 14668.

<sup>518</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/72/53/Add.1)*, chap. III.

*Convinced* that a moratorium on the use of the death penalty contributes to respect for human dignity and to the enhancement and progressive development of human rights, and considering that there is no conclusive evidence of the deterrent value of the death penalty,

*Noting* ongoing local and national debates and regional initiatives on the death penalty, as well as the readiness of an increasing number of Member States to make available to the public information on the use of the death penalty, and also, in this regard, the decision by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 26/2 of 26 June 2014<sup>519</sup> to convene biennial high-level panel discussions in order to further exchange views on the question of the death penalty,

*Recognizing* the role of national human rights institutions in contributing to ongoing local and national debates and regional initiatives on the death penalty,

*Welcoming* the considerable movement towards the abolition of the death penalty globally and the fact that many States are applying a moratorium, including long-standing moratoriums, either in law or in practice, on the use of the death penalty,

*Emphasizing* the need to ensure that persons facing the death penalty have access to justice without discrimination, including access to legal counsel, and that they are treated with humanity and with respect for their inherent dignity and in compliance with their rights under international human rights law,

*Noting with deep concern* that, as shown in recent reports of the Secretary-General, frequently, poor and economically vulnerable persons, foreign nationals, persons exercising their human rights and persons belonging to religious or ethnic minorities are disproportionately represented among those sentenced to the death penalty;<sup>520</sup>

*Noting* the technical cooperation among Member States, as well as the role of relevant United Nations entities and human rights mechanisms, in supporting State efforts to establish moratoriums on the death penalty,

*Bearing in mind* the work of special procedure mandate holders who have addressed human rights issues related to the death penalty within the framework of their respective mandates,

1. *Reaffirms* the sovereign right of all countries to develop their own legal systems, including determining appropriate legal penalties, in accordance with their international law obligations;

2. *Expresses its deep concern* about the continued application of the death penalty;

3. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 71/187 and the recommendations contained therein;<sup>521</sup>

4. *Also welcomes* the steps taken by some States to reduce the number of offences for which the death penalty may be imposed, as well as steps taken to limit its application;

5. *Further welcomes* initiatives and political leadership encouraging national discussions and debates on the possibility of moving away from capital punishment through domestic decision-making;

6. *Welcomes* the decisions made by an increasing number of States from all regions, at all levels of government, to apply a moratorium on executions, followed in many cases by the abolition of the death penalty;

7. *Calls upon* all States:

(a) To respect international standards that provide safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty, in particular the minimum standards, as set out in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/50 of 25 May 1984, as well as to provide the Secretary-General with information in this regard;

(b) To comply with their obligations under article 36 of the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,<sup>522</sup> particularly the right to receive information on consular assistance;

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<sup>519</sup> Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/69/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>520</sup> See, *inter alia*, A/70/304 and A/73/260.

<sup>521</sup> A/73/260.

<sup>522</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

(c) To make available relevant information, disaggregated by sex, age, nationality and race, as applicable, and other applicable criteria, with regard to their use of the death penalty, inter alia, the number of persons sentenced to death, the number of persons on death row and the number of executions carried out, the number of death sentences reversed or commuted on appeal and information on any scheduled execution, which can contribute to possible informed and transparent national and international debates, including on the obligations of States pertaining to the use of the death penalty;

(d) To progressively restrict the use of the death penalty and not to impose capital punishment for offences committed by persons below 18 years of age, on pregnant women or on persons with mental or intellectual disabilities;

(e) To reduce the number of offences for which the death penalty may be imposed, including by considering removing the mandatory application of the death penalty;

(f) To ensure that those facing the death penalty can exercise their right to apply for pardon or commutation of their death sentence by ensuring that clemency procedures are fair and transparent and that prompt information is provided at all stages of the process;

(g) To ensure that the death penalty is not applied on the basis of discriminatory laws or as a result of discriminatory or arbitrary application of the law;

(h) To establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty;

8. *Calls upon* States which have abolished the death penalty not to reintroduce it, and encourages them to share their experience in this regard;

9. *Encourages* States which have a moratorium to maintain it and to share their experience in this regard;

10. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider acceding to or ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;<sup>517</sup>

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to continue consideration of the matter at its seventy-fifth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

## RESOLUTION 73/176

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.2, para. 162)<sup>523</sup>

### 73/176. Freedom of religion or belief

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>524</sup> article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>525</sup> and other relevant human rights provisions,

*Recalling also* its resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

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<sup>523</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

<sup>524</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>525</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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*Recalling further* its previous resolutions on freedom of religion or belief and on the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief, including its resolution [72/177](#) of 19 December 2017 and Human Rights Council resolution [37/9](#) of 22 March 2018,<sup>526</sup>

*Recognizing* the important work carried out by the Human Rights Committee in providing guidance with respect to the scope of freedom of religion or belief,

*Noting* the conclusions and recommendations of the expert workshops organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and contained in the Rabat Plan of Action on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, adopted in Rabat on 5 October 2012,<sup>527</sup>

*Considering* that religion or belief, for those who profess either, is one of the fundamental elements in their conception of life and that freedom of religion or belief, as a universal human right, should be fully respected and guaranteed,

*Seriously concerned* at continuing acts of intolerance and violence based on religion or belief against individuals, including against persons belonging to religious communities and religious minorities around the world, and at the increasing number and intensity of such incidents, which are often of a criminal nature and may have international characteristics,

*Deeply concerned* at the limited progress that has been made in the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief, and believing that further intensified efforts are therefore required to promote and protect the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief and to eliminate all forms of hatred, intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief, as noted at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, as well as at the Durban Review Conference, held in Geneva from 20 to 24 April 2009,

*Recalling* that States have the primary responsibility to promote and protect human rights, including the human rights of persons belonging to religious minorities, including their right to exercise their religion or belief freely,

*Concerned* that State and non-State actors sometimes tolerate or encourage acts of violence, or credible threats of violence, against persons belonging to religious communities and religious minorities,

*Concerned also* at the increasing number of laws and regulations that limit the freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief and at the implementation of existing laws in a discriminatory manner,

*Convinced* of the need to urgently address the rapid rise in various parts of the world of religious extremism that affects the human rights of individuals, in particular persons belonging to religious communities and religious minorities, the situations of violence and discrimination that affect many individuals, particularly women and children, on the basis of or in the name of religion or belief or in accordance with cultural and traditional practices, and the misuse of religion or belief for ends inconsistent with the principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations and in other relevant instruments of the United Nations,

*Seriously concerned* about all attacks on religious places, sites and shrines that violate international law, in particular international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments, and including also those carried out in connection with incitement to national, racial or religious hatred,

*Emphasizing* that States, regional organizations, national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies, the media and civil society as a whole have an important role to play in promoting tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity and in the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including freedom of religion or belief,

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<sup>526</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/73/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>527</sup> [A/HRC/22/17/Add.4](#), appendix.



*Underlining* the importance of education, including human rights education, in the promotion of tolerance, which involves the acceptance by the public of and its respect for diversity, including with regard to religious expression, and underlining also the fact that education, in particular at school, should contribute in a meaningful way to promoting tolerance and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

1. *Stresses* that everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, which includes the freedom to have or not to have, or to adopt, a religion or belief of one's own choice and the freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest one's religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance, including the right to change one's religion or belief;

2. *Emphasizes* that the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief applies equally to all persons, regardless of their religion or belief and without any discrimination as to their equal protection by the law;

3. *Strongly condemns* violations of freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, as well as all forms of intolerance, discrimination and violence based on religion or belief;

4. *Recognizes with deep concern* the overall rise in instances of discrimination, intolerance and violence, regardless of the actors, directed against members of many religious and other communities in various parts of the world, including cases motivated by Islamophobia, anti-Semitism and Christianophobia and prejudices against persons of other religions or beliefs;

5. *Reaffirms* that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion or belief, as this may have adverse consequences for the enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief of all members of the religious communities concerned;

6. *Strongly condemns* continuing violence and acts of terrorism targeting individuals, including persons belonging to religious minorities, on the basis of or in the name of religion or belief, and underlines the importance of a comprehensive and inclusive community-based preventive approach, involving a wide set of actors, including civil society and religious communities;

7. *Recalls* that States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish acts of violence, intimidation and harassment against a person or a group of persons belonging to a religious minority, regardless of the perpetrator, and that failure to do so may constitute a human rights violation;

8. *Emphasizes* that freedom of religion or belief, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to peaceful assembly and the right to freedom of association are interdependent, interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and stresses the role that these rights can play in the fight against all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief;

9. *Strongly condemns* any advocacy of hatred based on religion or belief that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audiovisual or electronic media or any other means;

10. *Expresses concern* at the persistence of institutionalized social intolerance and discrimination practised against many on the grounds of religion or belief, and emphasizes that legal procedures pertaining to religious or belief-based groups and places of worship are not a prerequisite for the exercise of the right to manifest one's religion or belief and that such procedures, when legally required at the national or local level, should be non-discriminatory in order to contribute to the effective protection of the right of all persons to practise their religion or belief, either individually or in community with others and in public or private;

11. *Recognizes with concern* the challenges that persons in vulnerable situations, including persons deprived of their liberty, refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons, children, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and migrants, as well as women, are facing as regards their ability to freely exercise their right to freedom of religion or belief;

12. *Emphasizes* that, as underlined by the Human Rights Committee, restrictions on the freedom to manifest one's religion or belief are permitted only if limitations are prescribed by law, are necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others, are non-discriminatory and are applied in a manner that does not vitiate the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief;

13. *Expresses deep concern* at continued obstacles to the enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief, as well as the increasing number of instances of intolerance, discrimination and violence based on religion or belief, including:

(a) Acts of violence and intolerance directed against individuals based on their religion or belief, including religious persons and persons belonging to religious minorities and other communities in various parts of the world;

(b) The rise of religious extremism in various parts of the world that affects the human rights of individuals, including persons belonging to religious minorities;

(c) Incidents of hatred, discrimination, intolerance and violence based on religion or belief, which may be associated with or manifested by the derogatory stereotyping, negative profiling and stigmatization of persons based on their religion or belief;

(d) Attacks on or destruction of religious places, sites and shrines that violate international law, in particular international human rights law and international humanitarian law, as they have more than material significance for the dignity and lives of persons holding spiritual or religious beliefs;

(e) Instances, both in law and practice, that constitute violations of the human right to freedom of religion or belief, including of the individual right to publicly express one's spiritual and religious beliefs, taking into account the relevant articles of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>524</sup> as well as other international instruments;

(f) Constitutional and legislative systems that fail to provide adequate and effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief to all without distinction;

14. *Urges* States to step up their efforts to protect and promote freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, and to that end:

(a) To ensure that their constitutional and legislative systems provide adequate and effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief to all without distinction by, inter alia, providing access to justice, including by facilitating legal assistance and effective remedies in cases where the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief or the right to freely choose and practise one's religion or belief is violated, paying particular attention to persons belonging to religious minorities;

(b) To implement all accepted universal periodic review recommendations related to the promotion and protection of freedom of religion or belief;

(c) To ensure that no one within their territory and subject to their jurisdiction is deprived of the right to life, liberty and security of person because of religion or belief, to provide adequate protection to persons at risk of violent attack on the grounds of their religion or belief, to ensure that no one is subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment or arbitrary arrest or detention on that account and to bring to justice all perpetrators of violations of these rights;

(d) To end violations of the human rights of women and girls and to devote particular attention to appropriate measures modifying or abolishing existing laws, regulations, customs and practices that discriminate against them, including in the exercise of their right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, and to foster practical ways to ensure gender equality;

(e) To ensure that existing legislation is not implemented in a discriminatory manner or does not result in discrimination based on religion or belief, that no one is discriminated against on the basis of his or her religion or belief when accessing, inter alia, education, medical care, employment, humanitarian assistance or social benefits, and that everyone has the right and the opportunity to have access, on general terms of equality, to public services in their country, without any discrimination based on religion or belief;

(f) To review, whenever relevant, existing registration practices in order to ensure that such practices do not limit the right of all persons to manifest their religion or belief, either alone or in community with others and in public or private;

(g) To ensure that no official documents are withheld from the individual on the grounds of religion or belief and that everyone has the right to refrain from disclosing information concerning their religious affiliation in such documents against their will;

(h) To ensure, in particular, the right of all persons to worship, assemble or teach in connection with a religion or belief, their right to establish and maintain places for these purposes and the right of all persons to seek, receive and impart information and ideas in these areas;

(i) To ensure that, in accordance with appropriate national legislation and in conformity with international human rights law, the freedom of all persons and members of groups to establish and maintain religious, charitable or humanitarian institutions is fully respected and protected;

(j) To ensure that all public officials and civil servants, including members of law enforcement bodies, and personnel of detention facilities, the military and educators, in the course of fulfilling their official duties, respect freedom of religion or belief and do not discriminate for reasons based on religion or belief, and that they receive all necessary and appropriate awareness-raising, education or training on respect for freedom of religion or belief;

(k) To take all necessary and appropriate action, in conformity with international standards of human rights, to combat hatred, discrimination, intolerance and acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by intolerance based on religion or belief, as well as incitement to hostility and violence, with particular regard to persons belonging to religious minorities in all parts of the world;

(l) To promote, through education and other means, mutual understanding, tolerance, non-discrimination and respect in all matters relating to freedom of religion or belief by encouraging, in society at large, a wider knowledge of the diversity of religions and beliefs and of the history, traditions, languages and cultures of the various religious minorities existing within their jurisdiction;

(m) To prevent any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on religion or belief that impairs the recognition, enjoyment or exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis and to detect signs of intolerance that may lead to discrimination based on religion or belief;

15. *Welcomes and encourages* initiatives by the media to promote tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity and the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including freedom of religion or belief, and stresses the importance of unhindered participation in the media and in public discourse for all persons, regardless of their religion or belief;

16. *Stresses* the importance of a continued and strengthened dialogue in all its forms, including among and within religions or beliefs, and with broader participation, including of women, to promote greater tolerance, respect and mutual understanding, and welcomes different initiatives in this regard, including the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations initiative and the programmes led by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

17. *Welcomes and encourages* the continuing efforts of all actors in society, including national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations and bodies and groups based on religion or belief, to promote the implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,<sup>528</sup> and further encourages their work in promoting freedom of religion or belief, in highlighting cases of religious intolerance, discrimination and persecution and in promoting religious tolerance;

18. *Recommends* that States, the United Nations and other actors, including national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations and bodies and groups based on religion or belief, in their efforts to promote freedom of religion or belief, ensure the widest possible dissemination of the text of the Declaration in as many different languages as possible and promote its implementation;

19. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work and the interim report on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on freedom of religion or belief;<sup>529</sup>

20. *Urges* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur, to respond favourably to his requests to visit their countries and to provide all information and follow-up necessary for the effective fulfilment of his mandate;

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<sup>528</sup> Resolution 36/55.

<sup>529</sup> A/73/362.

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Special Rapporteur receives the resources necessary to fully discharge his mandate;
22. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;
23. *Decides* to consider the question of the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance at its seventy-fourth session under the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”.

### RESOLUTION 73/177

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.2, para. 162)<sup>530</sup>

#### 73/177. Human rights in the administration of justice

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>531</sup> and the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto,<sup>532</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>533</sup> the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Optional Protocol thereto,<sup>534</sup> the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,<sup>535</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>536</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>537</sup> and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>538</sup> as well as all other relevant international treaties,

*Calling attention* to the numerous international standards in the field of the administration of justice,

*Recalling* all the resolutions of the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council that are relevant to the subject of human rights in the administration of justice, including General Assembly resolution 71/188 of 19 December 2016 and Human Rights Council resolutions 36/16 of 29 September 2017<sup>539</sup> and 37/22 of 23 March 2018,<sup>540</sup>

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities,<sup>541</sup>

*Recalling* the adoption of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),<sup>542</sup>

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<sup>530</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, Uruguay and Vanuatu.

<sup>531</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>532</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex; and United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1642, No. 14668.

<sup>533</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>534</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 1465 and 2375, No. 24841.

<sup>535</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2716, No. 48088.

<sup>536</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>537</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>538</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>539</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/72/53/Add.1)*, chap. III.

<sup>540</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/73/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>541</sup> A/73/253.

<sup>542</sup> Resolution 70/175, annex.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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*Reaffirming* the importance of international standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including in relation to drug-related crimes, as recognized by Member States in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem”,<sup>543</sup>

*Welcoming* the work of all special procedures of the Human Rights Council that address human rights in the administration of justice in the discharge of their mandates,

*Taking note* of the work of the human rights treaty body mechanisms on human rights in the administration of justice, inter alia, of general comments No. 21 (1992) on humane treatment of persons deprived of their liberty,<sup>544</sup> No. 32 (2007) on the right to equality before courts and tribunals and to a fair trial<sup>545</sup> and No. 35 (2014) on liberty and security of person,<sup>546</sup> adopted by the Human Rights Committee, general comments No. 10 (2007) on children’s rights in juvenile justice<sup>547</sup> and No. 13 (2011) on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence,<sup>548</sup> adopted by the Committee on the Rights of the Child, general recommendation No. 31 (2005) on the prevention of racial discrimination in the administration and functioning of the criminal justice system,<sup>549</sup> adopted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and general recommendation No. 33 (2015) on women’s access to justice,<sup>550</sup> adopted by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women,

*Noting with appreciation* the important work in the field of the administration of justice of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children’s Fund, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), as well as the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict,

*Recalling* the regional conference on oversight, inspection and monitoring of places where children are deprived of liberty in the framework of the criminal justice system organized in Buenos Aires on 19 and 20 May 2016 by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and the United Nations Children’s Fund, and the important recommendations that have been put forward in this regard,

*Noting with satisfaction* the work of the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice and of its members,

*Encouraging* continued regional and cross-regional efforts, the sharing of best practices and the provision of technical assistance in the field of juvenile justice, and noting in this regard the World Congress on Justice for Children, held in Paris from 28 to 30 May 2018,

*Convinced* that the independence and impartiality of the judiciary and the integrity of the judicial system as well as an independent legal profession are essential prerequisites for the protection of human rights, the rule of law, good governance and democracy and for ensuring that there is no discrimination in the administration of justice and should therefore be respected in all circumstances,

*Recalling* that every State should provide an effective framework of remedies to redress human rights grievances or violations and to challenge the lawfulness of detention before a court,

*Emphasizing* that the right to access to justice for all, which could include access to legal aid, forms an important basis for strengthening the rule of law through the administration of justice,

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<sup>543</sup> Resolution S-30/1, annex.

<sup>544</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/47/40)*, annex VI.B.

<sup>545</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/62/40)*, vol. I, annex VI.

<sup>546</sup> CCPR/C/GC/35.

<sup>547</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 41 (A/63/41)*, annex IV.

<sup>548</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 41 (A/67/41)*, annex V.

<sup>549</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 18 (A/60/18)*, chap. IX.

<sup>550</sup> CEDAW/C/GC/33.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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*Underlining* the importance of implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>551</sup> and recognizing the role of the relevant Sustainable Development Goals for eliminating discrimination in the administration of justice,

*Mindful* of the importance of ensuring respect for the rule of law and human rights in the administration of justice as a crucial contribution to building peace and justice and ending impunity,

*Recognizing* the importance of the principle that, except for those lawful limitations that are demonstrably necessitated by the fact of incarceration, persons deprived of their liberty shall retain their non-derogable human rights and all other human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Concerned* about the negative impact of overincarceration and overcrowding on the enjoyment of human rights, and acknowledging that overincarceration constitutes one of the major underlying causes of overcrowding,

*Emphasizing* that the penitentiary system should provide the possibility of reform and social rehabilitation of the offender in all appropriate cases, and that punishment should be dealt with in the larger framework of a criminal justice system that provides the possibility of reinsertion and reintegration of the offender into society,

*Recalling* that the social rehabilitation and reintegration of persons deprived of their liberty shall be among the essential aims of the criminal justice system, ensuring, as far as possible, that offenders are able to lead a law-abiding and self-supporting life upon their return to society,

*Underlining* that, where persons are in vulnerable situations or marginalized, prejudice and discrimination in the administration of justice may result in their overincarceration and overrepresentation throughout the criminal justice system, and recognizing the need for States to take measures, within the justice system, particularly the criminal justice system, to prevent discrimination, inter alia, against persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and to increase their effective participation within the system,

*Aware* of the need for special vigilance with regard to the specific situation of children, juveniles and women in the administration of justice, in particular while they are deprived of their liberty, and their vulnerability to various forms of violence, abuse, injustice and humiliation,

*Noting* the importance of gender-sensitive justice systems,

*Reaffirming* that children who are victims and witnesses of crime and violence are particularly vulnerable and require special protection, assistance and support appropriate to their age, level of maturity and needs, in order to prevent further hardship and trauma that may result from their participation in the criminal justice process,

*Recognizing* the specific situation and needs of children formerly associated with armed forces or armed groups when accused of crimes under international law allegedly committed while they were associated with armed forces or armed groups,

*Reaffirming* that the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration in all actions concerning the child in the administration of justice, including in relation to pretrial measures, as well as being an important consideration in all matters concerning the child related to the sentencing of the parents, or, where applicable, legal guardians or primary caregivers,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the most recent report of the Secretary-General on human rights in the administration of justice;<sup>552</sup>

2. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on non-discrimination and the protection of persons with increased vulnerability in the administration of justice, in particular in situations of deprivation of liberty and with regard to the causes and effects of overincarceration and overcrowding,<sup>553</sup> as well as previous reports on human rights in the administration of justice submitted to the Human Rights Council;

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<sup>551</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>552</sup> A/73/210.

<sup>553</sup> A/HRC/36/28.



3. *Reaffirms* the importance of the full and effective implementation of all United Nations standards on human rights in the administration of justice, and invites States to assess their national legislation and practice against those standards;

4. *Invites* States to make use of technical assistance offered by the relevant United Nations entities and programmes in order to strengthen national capacities and infrastructures in the field of the administration of justice;

5. *Appeals* to Governments to include, in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>551</sup> and in their national development plans, the effective administration of justice and equal access to justice for all as an integral part of the development process, with a view to promoting and protecting human rights, and to allocate adequate resources for effective, fair, humane and accountable justice systems, including the provision of legal aid services, and invites the international community to respond favourably to requests for financial and technical assistance for the enhancement and strengthening of the administration of justice;

6. *Stresses* the special need for national capacity-building in the field of the administration of justice, in particular through reform of the judiciary, the police and the penal system, as well as juvenile justice reform, and through the encouragement of independence, accountability and transparency in the judiciary, in order to establish and maintain stable societies and the rule of law in post-conflict situations, and welcomes the role of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in supporting the establishment and functioning of transitional justice mechanisms in post-conflict situations;

7. *Reaffirms* that no one should be unlawfully or arbitrarily deprived of liberty, and notes that any deprivation should observe the principles of necessity and proportionality in this regard;

8. *Calls upon* States to apply individual criminal responsibility and to refrain from detaining persons based solely on their family ties with an alleged offender;

9. *Also calls upon* States to ensure that anyone who is deprived of liberty through arrest or detention has prompt access to a competent court with the effective power to determine the lawfulness of the detention and to order release if the detention or imprisonment is determined not to be lawful and prompt access to legal counsel, which could include legal aid schemes, in accordance with their international obligations and commitments;

10. *Calls upon* all States to consider establishing, maintaining or enhancing independent national mechanisms with the mandate to monitor all places of detention, including by making unannounced visits, and to hold private interviews without witnesses with all persons deprived of liberty, inter alia, in line with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),<sup>542</sup>

11. *Calls upon* States to ensure a proper file and data management system on prisoners that allows the tracking of the number of persons deprived of their liberty, their detention period, offences or grounds for detention, and developments regarding the prison population, and encourages States to collect other up-to-date, comprehensive and disaggregated data that allow for the identification and prevention of discrimination in the administration of justice and overincarceration;

12. *Affirms* that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism, including in the administration of justice, complies with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law;

13. *Recalls* the absolute prohibition of torture in international law, and calls upon States to address and prevent the detention conditions, treatment and punishment of persons deprived of their liberty that amount to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

14. *Calls upon* States to investigate promptly, effectively and impartially all alleged human rights violations suffered by persons deprived of their liberty, in particular cases involving death, torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, to provide effective remedy to the victims, in accordance with their international obligations and commitments, and to ensure that detention administrations fully cooperate with the investigating authority and preserve all evidence;

15. *Also calls upon* States to ensure effective access to justice for persons with disabilities when investigating, prosecuting and punishing persons responsible for human rights violations and abuses committed against them, including by providing effective remedies, taking into consideration, on an equal basis with others, the specific circumstances of the person with disabilities, as well as by implementing systemic changes, legal and policy reforms and capacity-building where needed in order to ensure non-repetition;

16. *Urges* States to endeavour to reduce, where appropriate, pretrial detention, which should be a measure of last resort and for as short a period as possible, inter alia, by adopting legislative and administrative measures and policies on its preconditions, limitations, duration and alternatives and by taking measures aimed at the implementation of existing legislation, as well as by ensuring access to justice and legal advice and assistance, which could include legal aid schemes;

17. *Encourages* States to address overcrowding in detention facilities by taking effective measures, including through enhancing the availability and use of alternatives to pretrial detention and custodial sentences, bearing in mind the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules)<sup>554</sup> and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),<sup>555</sup> access to legal aid, mechanisms for crime prevention, early release and rehabilitation programmes and the efficiency as well as the capacity of the criminal justice system and its facilities, bearing in mind the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems;<sup>556</sup>

18. *Urges* States to take all necessary measures to prevent and eliminate discrimination in law and in practice against persons who are in vulnerable situations or marginalized in the administration of justice that may also result in their overincarceration and overrepresentation throughout the criminal justice process;

19. *Also urges* States to pay special attention to the conditions of detention or imprisonment of persons who are in vulnerable situations or marginalized and to their particular needs;

20. *Continues to encourage* States to pay due attention to the Bangkok Rules when developing and implementing relevant legislation, procedures, policies and action plans, and invites relevant special procedure mandate holders, the Office of the High Commissioner, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and all other relevant organizations to take those rules into consideration in their activities;

21. *Encourages* States to review penal policies that can contribute to overincarceration and overcrowding, in particular regarding so-called “zero-tolerance policies”, such as the application of mandatory pretrial detention and mandatory minimum sentences especially for minor and/or non-violent crimes;

22. *Recognizes* that all children and juveniles alleged as, accused of or recognized as having infringed the law, particularly those who are deprived of their liberty, as well as child victims and witnesses of crimes, should be treated in a manner consistent with their rights, dignity and needs, in accordance with international law, bearing in mind relevant international standards on human rights in the administration of justice, taking into account also the age, gender, social circumstances and development needs of such children, and calls upon States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>557</sup> and States parties to the Optional Protocols to the Convention<sup>557</sup> to abide strictly by their principles and respective provisions;

23. *Reiterates* the importance of the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,<sup>558</sup> and urges States to consider applying them, as appropriate, in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of laws, policies, programmes, budgets and mechanisms aimed at eliminating violence against children in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and encourages States to support and to benefit, as appropriate, from the programme proposed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Children’s Fund in this regard;

24. *Recalls* its resolutions 69/157 of 18 December 2014 and 72/245 of 24 December 2017, in which it invited the Secretary-General to commission an in-depth global study on children deprived of liberty, to be funded through voluntary contributions, and in this regard encourages Member States, United Nations agencies, funds, programmes and offices, as well as other relevant stakeholders, to support the elaboration of the study;

25. *Encourages* States that have not yet integrated children’s issues into their overall rule of law efforts to do so and to develop and implement a comprehensive and coordinated juvenile justice policy to prevent and address

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<sup>554</sup> Resolution 45/110, annex.

<sup>555</sup> Resolution 65/229, annex.

<sup>556</sup> Resolution 67/187, annex.

<sup>557</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex.

<sup>558</sup> Resolution 69/194, annex.

juvenile delinquency and to address risks and causes for children's contact with the juvenile and/or criminal justice system, as well as with a view to promoting, inter alia, the use of alternative measures, such as diversion and restorative justice, and complying with the principle that deprivation of liberty of children should be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time, as well as to avoid, wherever possible, the use of pretrial detention for children;

26. *Stresses* the importance of including reintegration strategies for former child offenders in juvenile justice policies, in particular through the provision of gender-sensitive education and life skills programmes, as well as treatment and services for substance abuse and mental health needs, in line with relevant commitments and obligations under international human rights law, with a view to their assuming a constructive role in society;

27. *Urges* States to take all necessary and effective measures, including legal reform where appropriate, to prevent and respond to all forms of violence against children within the justice system, including within the informal justice system, where it exists;

28. *Also urges* States to ensure that, under their legislation and practice, neither capital punishment nor life imprisonment without the possibility of release nor corporal punishment is imposed for offences committed by persons under 18 years of age, and encourages States to consider repealing all other forms of life imprisonment for offences committed by persons under 18 years of age;

29. *Encourages* States not to set the minimum age of criminal responsibility at too low an age level, bearing in mind the emotional, mental and intellectual maturity of the child, and in this respect notes the recommendation of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to increase the lower minimum age of criminal responsibility to the age of 12 years as the absolute minimum age, and to continue to increase it to a higher age level;<sup>547</sup>

30. *Also encourages* States to gather relevant information, including through data collection and research, concerning children within their criminal justice systems so as to improve their administration of justice, while being mindful of the children's right to privacy, with full respect for relevant international human rights instruments, and bearing in mind applicable international standards on human rights in the administration of justice;

31. *Stresses* the importance of paying greater attention to the impact on children of imprisonment or other sentences imposed upon their parents, while noting with interest the convening of and reports on all relevant meetings and panel discussions on these issues held by the Human Rights Council;<sup>559</sup>

32. *Calls upon* States to take effective and appropriate measures to remove all barriers preventing persons with disabilities from having effective access to justice on an equal basis with others and without discrimination;

33. *Invites* States to provide for tailored and interdisciplinary human rights training, including anti-racist, anti-discriminatory, multicultural, disability-inclusive, gender-sensitive and child rights training, to all judges, lawyers, prosecutors, social workers, immigration, correction and police officers and other professionals concerned, including personnel deployed in international field presences;

34. *Also invites* States, upon their request, to benefit from technical advice and assistance provided by the relevant United Nations entities and programmes in order to strengthen national capacities and infrastructures in the field of the administration of justice;

35. *Invites* the Office of the High Commissioner and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to reinforce their technical assistance to States, upon request and in accordance with their respective mandates, to strengthen the national capacity-building of States in the field of the administration of justice, in particular in post-conflict situations, and in this context to strengthen cooperation with relevant United Nations entities;

36. *Underlines* the importance of rebuilding and strengthening structures for the administration of justice and of respecting the rule of law and human rights, including in post-conflict situations, as a crucial contribution to building peace and justice and ending impunity, and in this respect requests the Secretary-General to further streamline and strengthen system-wide coordination and coherence of programmes and activities of the relevant parts of the United Nations system, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group chaired by the Deputy

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<sup>559</sup> [A/HRC/21/31](#) and [A/HRC/25/33](#).

Secretary-General, the Rule of Law Unit in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and the global focal point arrangement for the police, justice and corrections areas in the rule of law in post-conflict and other crisis situations;

37. *Invites* States, in the context of the universal periodic review mechanism and in their reports under international human rights treaties, to consider addressing the promotion and protection of human rights in the administration of justice;

38. *Also invites* States, when reviewing progress made in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to consider the possibility of looking into the causes and effects of overincarceration and overcrowding, including, where persons are in vulnerable situations or marginalized, with regard to non-discrimination and persons who are in vulnerable situations or marginalized in the administration of justice;

39. *Invites* relevant special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council, as well as relevant treaty bodies, to give special attention to questions relating to the effective protection of human rights in the administration of justice, and to provide, wherever appropriate, specific recommendations in this regard, including proposals for advisory services and technical assistance measures;

40. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report on the latest developments, challenges and good practices in human rights in the administration of justice, including on the situation of persons with disabilities in the administration of justice, and on the activities undertaken by the United Nations system as a whole;

41. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question of human rights in the administration of justice at its seventy-fifth session under the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”.

### RESOLUTION 73/178

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.2, para. 162)<sup>560</sup>

#### 73/178. Missing persons

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes, principles and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Guided also* by the principles and norms of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949<sup>561</sup> and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977,<sup>562</sup> as well as international standards of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>563</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>564</sup> the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>564</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>565</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>566</sup> and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,<sup>567</sup>

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<sup>560</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

<sup>561</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

<sup>562</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

<sup>563</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>564</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>565</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>566</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>567</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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*Recalling* the accession by 58 States to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,<sup>568</sup> and calling upon States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to it as a matter of priority, as well as to consider the option provided for in articles 31 and 32 of the Convention regarding the Committee on Enforced Disappearances,

*Recalling also* all previous relevant resolutions on missing persons adopted by the General Assembly, as well as the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council,

*Recalling further* General Assembly resolution 71/201 of 19 December 2016 as well as all previous resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council on the right to the truth,

*Noting with deep concern* the growing number of armed conflicts in various parts of the world, often resulting in serious violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law,

*Noting* that the issue of persons reported missing in connection with international or non-international armed conflicts, in particular those who are victims of violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, continues to have a negative impact on efforts to put an end to those conflicts and inflicts grievous suffering on the families of missing persons, and stressing in this regard the need to address the issue from, inter alia, a humanitarian and rule of law perspective,

*Expressing its concern* about the dramatic increase since 2014 in persons reported missing in connection with armed conflict, and recognizing that it is critical for States to address the issue holistically, from prevention to the tracing, location, identification and return of missing persons,

*Considering* that the problem of missing persons may raise questions of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, as appropriate,

*Bearing in mind* that cases of missing persons involve conduct that may constitute criminal offences, and stressing the importance of ending impunity for violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law with respect to missing persons,

*Cognizant* that States that are parties to an armed conflict have a responsibility for countering the phenomenon of missing persons, taking all appropriate measures to prevent persons from going missing, including, when appropriate, effectively investigating the conditions relating to persons going missing and determining the fate of missing persons, and for recognizing their accountability as regards implementing the relevant mechanisms, policies and laws,

*Bearing in mind* the effective search for and identification of missing persons using forensic sciences and other emerging technologies, and recognizing that great technological progress has been made in this field, including DNA forensic analysis, which can significantly assist efforts to identify missing persons and to investigate violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law,

*Recognizing* that the establishment and effective work of competent national institutions can play a crucial role in clarifying the fate of missing persons in connection with armed conflict,

*Bearing in mind* that the question of missing persons entails consequences not only for the victims themselves, but also for their families, especially women, children and older persons, and in this regard recognizing the importance of addressing the legal situation of missing persons in connection with armed conflict and supporting their family members through national policies that include a gender perspective, as appropriate,

*Noting*, in this regard, the progress made by coordination mechanisms, established in different parts of the world, aiming at exchanging information and identifying missing persons, which have contributed to informing families of the fate and whereabouts of their missing relatives,

*Recognizing* that respect for and implementation of international humanitarian law can reduce the number of cases of missing persons in armed conflict, and in this regard stressing the importance of encouraging greater understanding of and respect for international humanitarian law,

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<sup>568</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2716, No. 48088.

*Stressing* the importance of measures to prevent persons from going missing in connection with armed conflict, which may include enacting national legislation, ensuring detainee registration, providing appropriate training for armed forces, producing and providing proper means of identification, the establishment of information bureaux, grave registration services and registers of deaths and ensuring accountability in cases of missing persons,

*Stressing also* the need to raise public awareness of the problem of missing persons in connection with armed conflict as an important concern, as well as relevant provisions of international humanitarian law and human rights law,

*Noting* the Agreement on the Status and Functions of the International Commission on Missing Persons, which established the Commission as an international organization,

*Noting with appreciation* the ongoing international and regional efforts to address the question of missing persons and the initiatives undertaken by international and regional organizations in this field,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>569</sup>

1. *Urges* States to strictly observe and to respect and ensure respect for the rules of international humanitarian law, as set out in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949<sup>561</sup> and, where applicable, in the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977;<sup>562</sup>

2. *Calls upon* States parties to an armed conflict to take all appropriate measures to prevent persons from going missing in connection with the armed conflict, to account for persons reported missing as a result of such a situation and, in cases of missing persons, to take such measures, as appropriate, in order to ensure thorough, prompt, impartial and effective investigations and the prosecution of offences linked to missing persons, consistent with their obligations under international law, with a view to full accountability;

3. *Calls upon* States to take measures to prevent persons from going missing in connection with armed conflict, including by fully implementing their obligations and commitments under relevant international law;

4. *Urges* States to avoid harm to civilians as an important factor in preventing persons from going missing in connection with armed conflict, including in minimizing the military use of civilian infrastructure, in accordance with applicable international law;

5. *Reaffirms* the right of families to know the fate of their relatives reported missing in connection with armed conflict;

6. *Also reaffirms* that each party to an armed conflict, as soon as circumstances permit and, at the latest, from the end of active hostilities, shall search for persons who have been reported missing by an adverse party;

7. *Calls upon* States that are parties to an armed conflict to take all necessary measures, in a timely manner, to determine the identity and fate of persons reported missing in connection with the armed conflict, without any adverse distinction, and, to the greatest extent possible, to provide their family members, through appropriate channels, with all relevant information that they have on their fate, including their whereabouts or, if they are dead, the circumstances and cause of their death;

8. *Recognizes* the need for appropriate means of identification and for the collection, protection and management of data on missing persons and unidentified remains, consistent with applicable international and national law, and urges all concerned States to cooperate with each other and with other concerned actors working in this area by, inter alia, providing all relevant information related to missing persons, including on their fate and whereabouts;

9. *Requests* States to pay the utmost attention to cases of children reported missing in connection with armed conflict and to take appropriate measures to search for and identify those children and to reunite them with their families;

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<sup>569</sup> A/73/385.



## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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10. *Invites* States that are parties to an armed conflict to cooperate fully with the International Committee of the Red Cross in establishing the fate of missing persons and to adopt a comprehensive approach to this issue, including all such legal and practical measures and coordination mechanisms as may be necessary, based on humanitarian considerations only;

11. *Urges* States that are parties to an armed conflict to cooperate, consistent with their international obligations, in order to effectively solve cases of missing persons, including by providing mutual assistance in terms of information-sharing, victim assistance, location and identification of missing persons and recovery, identification and return of human remains and, if possible, by identifying, mapping and preserving burial sites;

12. *Invites* States to encourage interaction between competent organizations and institutions, such as national commissions on missing persons, which play a crucial role in clarifying the fate of persons missing in connection with armed conflict and providing support to the families of the missing;

13. *Urges* States, and encourages intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to take all necessary measures at the national, regional and international levels to address the problem of persons reported missing in connection with armed conflict without any adverse distinction and to provide appropriate assistance, as requested by the concerned States, and welcomes in this regard the establishment and efforts of commissions and working groups on missing persons;

14. *Calls upon* States, without prejudice to their efforts to determine the fate of persons reported missing in connection with armed conflict, to take appropriate steps with regard to the legal situation of missing persons and the individual needs and accompaniment of their family members, with particular attention to the needs of women, children and older persons, in such fields as social welfare, psychological and psychosocial support, financial matters, family law and property rights;

15. *Invites* States, national institutions and, as appropriate, intergovernmental, international and non-governmental organizations to further their engagement in order to follow forensic best practices as they apply to preventing and resolving cases of missing persons in connection with armed conflict;

16. *Also invites* States, national institutions and, as appropriate, intergovernmental, international and non-governmental organizations to exchange best practices and technical recommendations pertaining, inter alia, to the search for and clarification of the fate and whereabouts of missing persons, the use and development of digital tools, forensic analysis and identification and addressing the needs of families;

17. *Further invites* States, national institutions and, as appropriate, intergovernmental, international and non-governmental organizations to ensure the development and proper management of archives pertaining to missing persons and unidentified remains in connection with armed conflict, as well as access to those archives, in accordance with relevant applicable laws and regulations;

18. *Stresses* the need to address the issue of missing persons as a part of peace and peacebuilding processes, with reference to all justice and rule of law mechanisms, including the judiciary, parliamentary commissions and truth-finding mechanisms, on the basis of transparency, accountability and public involvement and participation;

19. *Welcomes* the progress made in clarifying the fate of missing persons in connection with armed conflict;

20. *Invites* relevant human rights mechanisms and procedures, as appropriate, to address the problem of persons reported missing in connection with armed conflict in their forthcoming reports to the General Assembly;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek further the views of Member States and relevant agencies and to submit to the Human Rights Council at its relevant session and to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution, including relevant practical recommendations;

22. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, the competent United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and international humanitarian organizations;

23. *Decides* to consider the question at its seventy-fifth session.

## RESOLUTION 73/179

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.2, para. 162)<sup>570</sup>

### 73/179. The right to privacy in the digital age

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>571</sup> and relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>572</sup> and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>572</sup> as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>573</sup>

*Recalling* General Assembly resolutions 68/167 of 18 December 2013, 69/166 of 18 December 2014 and 71/199 of 19 December 2016 on the right to privacy in the digital age, and resolution 45/95 of 14 December 1990 on guidelines for the regulation of computerized personal data files, as well as Human Rights Council resolutions 28/16 of 26 March 2015<sup>574</sup> and 34/7 of 23 March 2017<sup>575</sup> on the right to privacy in the digital age and resolutions 32/13 of 1 July 2016<sup>576</sup> and 38/7 of 5 July 2018<sup>577</sup> on the promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the Internet,

*Recalling also* the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,<sup>578</sup>

*Taking note* of the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to privacy<sup>579</sup> and the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression,<sup>580</sup>

*Welcoming* the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the right to privacy in the digital age, noting with interest the report of the High Commissioner thereon,<sup>581</sup> and recalling the panel discussion on the right to privacy in the digital age held during the twenty-seventh session of the Human Rights Council,

*Noting* that the rapid pace of technological development enables individuals all over the world to use new information and communications technologies and at the same time enhances the capacity of Governments, companies and individuals to undertake surveillance, interception and data collection, which may violate or abuse human rights, in particular the right to privacy, as set out in article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and is therefore an issue of increasing concern,

<sup>570</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Ukraine and Uruguay.

<sup>571</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>572</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>573</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

<sup>574</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/70/53)*, chap. III, sect. A.

<sup>575</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/72/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>576</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/71/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>577</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/73/53)*, chap. VI, sect. A.

<sup>578</sup> Resolution 70/125.

<sup>579</sup> A/HRC/34/60 and A/72/540.

<sup>580</sup> A/HRC/38/35 and A/73/348.

<sup>581</sup> A/HRC/39/29.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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*Noting also* that violations and abuses of the right to privacy in the digital age may affect all individuals, with particular effects on women, as well as children and those who are vulnerable and marginalized,

*Recognizing* that the promotion of and respect for the right to privacy are important to the prevention of violence, including gender-based violence, abuse and sexual harassment, in particular against women and children, which can occur in digital and online spaces and includes cyberbullying and cyberstalking,

*Reaffirming* the human right to privacy, according to which no one shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her privacy, family, home or correspondence, and the right to the protection of the law against such interference, and recognizing that the exercise of the right to privacy is important for the realization of the right to freedom of expression and to hold opinions without interference and the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, and is one of the foundations of a democratic society,

*Noting with appreciation* general comment No. 16 of the Human Rights Committee on article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, on the right to respect of privacy, family, home and correspondence, and protection of honour and reputation,<sup>582</sup> while also noting the vast technological leaps that have taken place since its adoption and the need to discuss the right to privacy in view of the challenges of the digital age,

*Recognizing* the need to further discuss and analyse, based on international human rights law, issues relating to the promotion and protection of the right to privacy in the digital age, procedural safeguards, effective domestic oversight and remedies, the impact of surveillance on the right to privacy and other human rights, as well as the need to examine the principles of non-arbitrariness, lawfulness, legality, necessity and proportionality in relation to surveillance practices,

*Noting* the holding of the Global Multi-stakeholder Meeting on the Future of Internet Governance (NETmundial) and the multi-stakeholder discussions that take place annually in the Internet Governance Forum, which is a multi-stakeholder forum for discussions of Internet governance issues and whose mandate was extended by the General Assembly in 2015 for another 10 years,<sup>578</sup> and recognizing that effectively addressing the challenges relating to the right to privacy in the context of modern communications technology requires an ongoing, concerted multi-stakeholder engagement,

*Emphasizing* that the protection and promotion of, and respect for, the right to privacy benefit from sustained engagement, including through informal dialogues, among all stakeholders, including States, business enterprises, international organizations and civil society,

*Recognizing* that the discussion on the right to privacy should be based upon existing international and domestic legal obligations, including international human rights law, as well as relevant commitments, and should not open the path for undue interference with an individual's human rights,

*Stressing* the importance of full respect for the freedom to seek, receive and impart information, including the fundamental importance of access to information and democratic participation,

*Recognizing* that the right to privacy is important for the enjoyment of other rights and can contribute to an individual's ability to participate in political, economic, social and cultural life, and noting with concern that violations or abuses of the right to be free from unlawful or arbitrary interference with the right to privacy might affect the enjoyment of other human rights, including the right to freedom of expression and to hold opinions without interference, and the right to peaceful assembly and freedom of association,

*Noting* that, while metadata may provide benefits, certain types of metadata, when aggregated, can reveal personal information that can be no less sensitive than the actual content of communications and can give an insight into an individual's behaviour, social relationships, private preferences and identity,

*Expressing concern* that individuals often do not and/or cannot provide their free, explicit and informed consent to the sale or multiple resale of their personal data, as the collecting, processing, use, storage and sharing of personal data, including sensitive data, have increased significantly in the digital age,

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<sup>582</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/43/40), annex VI.

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*Noting with concern* that profiling, automated decision-making and machine-learning technologies, sometimes referred to as artificial intelligence, without proper safeguards, may lead to decisions that have the potential to affect the enjoyment of human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights, and recognizing the need to apply international human rights law in the design, evaluation and regulation of these practices,

*Emphasizing* that unlawful or arbitrary surveillance and/or interception of communications, as well as the unlawful or arbitrary collection of personal data, as highly intrusive acts, violate the right to privacy, can interfere with the right to freedom of expression and may contradict the tenets of a democratic society, including when undertaken extraterritorially or on a mass scale,

*Recognizing* that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online, including the right to privacy,

*Noting in particular* that surveillance of digital communications must be consistent with international human rights obligations and must be conducted on the basis of a legal framework, which must be publicly accessible, clear, precise, comprehensive and non-discriminatory, and that any interference with the right to privacy must not be arbitrary or unlawful, bearing in mind what is reasonable with regard to the pursuance of legitimate aims, and recalling that States that are parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights must take the necessary steps to adopt laws or other measures as may be necessary to give effect to the rights recognized in the Covenant,

*Expressing concern* about the spread of disinformation and propaganda, including on the Internet, which can be designed and implemented so as to mislead, to violate human rights, including the right to privacy and to freedom of expression, and to incite violence, hatred, discrimination or hostility, and emphasizes the important contribution of journalists in countering this trend,

*Emphasizing* that States must respect international human rights obligations regarding the right to privacy when they intercept digital communications of individuals and/or collect personal data, when they share or otherwise provide access to data collected through, inter alia, information- and intelligence-sharing agreements and when they require disclosure of personal data from third parties, including private companies,

*Noting* the increase in the collection of sensitive biometric information from individuals, and stressing that States must respect their human rights obligations and that business enterprises should respect the right to privacy and other human rights when collecting, processing, sharing and storing biometric information by, inter alia, considering the adoption of data protection policies and safeguards,

*Noting also* that general comment No. 16 recommends that States take effective measures to prevent the unlawful retention, processing and use of personal data stored by public authorities and business enterprises,

*Welcoming* measures taken by business enterprises, on a voluntary basis, to provide transparency to their users about their policies regarding requests by State authorities for access to user data and information,

*Deeply concerned* at the negative impact that surveillance and/or interception of communications, including extraterritorial surveillance and/or interception of communications, as well as the collection of personal data, in particular when carried out on a mass scale, may have on the exercise and enjoyment of human rights,

*Emphasizing* that, in the digital age, technical solutions to secure and to protect the confidentiality of digital communications, which may include measures for encryption, pseudonymization and anonymity, can be important to ensure the enjoyment of human rights, in particular the rights to privacy, to freedom of expression and to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, and recognizing that States should refrain from employing unlawful or arbitrary surveillance techniques, which may include forms of hacking,

*Noting with deep concern* that, in many countries, persons and organizations engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms, journalists and other media workers may frequently face threats and harassment and suffer insecurity, as well as unlawful or arbitrary interference with their right to privacy, as a result of their activities,

*Noting* that, while concerns about public security may justify the gathering and protection of certain sensitive information, States must ensure full compliance with their obligations under international human rights law,

*Noting also*, in that respect, that the prevention and suppression of terrorism is a public interest of great importance, while reaffirming that States must ensure that any measures taken to combat terrorism are in compliance with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

*Recognizing* that an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful information and communications technology environment is important to the realization of the right to privacy in the digital age,

1. *Reaffirms* the right to privacy, according to which no one shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her privacy, family, home or correspondence, and the right to the protection of the law against such interference, as set out in article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>571</sup> and article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;<sup>572</sup>

2. *Recognizes* the global and open nature of the Internet and the rapid advancement in information and communications technologies as a driving force in accelerating progress towards development in its various forms, including in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;<sup>583</sup>

3. *Affirms* that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online, including the right to privacy;

4. *Recalls* that any interference with the right to privacy should take into account its legality, necessity and proportionality;

5. *Encourages* all States to promote an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful information and communications technology environment based on respect for international law, including the obligations enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and human rights instruments;

6. *Calls upon* all States:

(a) To respect and protect the right to privacy, including in the context of digital communications;

(b) To take measures to put an end to violations of the right to privacy and to create the conditions to prevent such violations, including by ensuring that relevant national legislation complies with their obligations under international human rights law;

(c) To review, on a regular basis, their procedures, practices and legislation regarding the surveillance of communications, their interception and the collection of personal data, including mass surveillance, interception and collection, with a view to upholding the right to privacy by ensuring the full and effective implementation of all their obligations under international human rights law;

(d) To establish or maintain existing independent, effective, adequately resourced and impartial judicial, administrative and/or parliamentary domestic oversight mechanisms capable of ensuring transparency, as appropriate, and accountability for State surveillance of communications, their interception and the collection of personal data;

(e) To provide individuals whose right to privacy has been violated by unlawful or arbitrary surveillance with access to an effective remedy, consistent with international human rights obligations;

(f) To consider developing or maintaining and implementing adequate legislation, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, including civil society, with effective sanctions and appropriate remedies, that protects individuals against violations and abuses of the right to privacy, namely through the unlawful and arbitrary collection, processing, retention or use of personal data by individuals, Governments, business enterprises and private organizations;

(g) To consider adopting and implementing data protection legislation, regulation and policies, including on digital communication data, that complies with their international human rights obligations, which could include the establishment of national independent authorities with powers and resources to monitor data privacy practices, investigate violations and abuses and receive communications from individuals and organizations, and to provide appropriate remedies;

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<sup>583</sup> See resolution 70/1.

(h) To further develop or maintain, in this regard, preventive measures and remedies for violations and abuses regarding the right to privacy in the digital age that may affect all individuals, including where there are particular effects on women, as well as children and those who are vulnerable and marginalized;

(i) To consider developing, reviewing, implementing and strengthening gender-responsive policies that promote and protect the right of all individuals to privacy in the digital age;

(j) To provide effective guidance to business enterprises on how to respect human rights by advising on appropriate methods, including human rights due diligence, and on how to consider effectively issues of gender, vulnerability and/or marginalization;

(k) To promote quality education and lifelong educational opportunities for all to foster, inter alia, digital literacy and technical skills to effectively protect privacy;

(l) To refrain from requiring business enterprises to take steps that interfere with the right to privacy in an arbitrary or unlawful way;

(m) To take steps to enable business enterprises to adopt adequate voluntary transparency measures with regard to requests by State authorities for access to private user data and information;

(n) To consider developing or to maintain legislation, preventive measures and remedies addressing harm from the processing, use, sale or multiple resale or other corporate sharing of personal data without the individual's free, explicit and informed consent;

7. *Calls upon* business enterprises:

(a) To meet their responsibility to respect human rights in accordance with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework,<sup>584</sup> including the right to privacy in the digital age;

(b) To inform users in a clear and easily accessible way about the collection, use, sharing and retention of their data that may affect their right to privacy and to establish transparency policies, as appropriate;

(c) To implement administrative, technical and physical safeguards to ensure that data are processed lawfully and to ensure that such processing is limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes of the processing and that the legitimacy of such purposes, as well as the accuracy, integrity and confidentiality of the processing, is ensured;

(d) To ensure that respect for the right to privacy and other international human rights is incorporated into the design, operation, evaluation and regulation of automated decision-making and machine-learning technologies and to provide for remediation of the human rights abuses that they have caused or to which they have contributed;

8. *Encourages* business enterprises to work towards enabling secure communications and the protection of individual users against arbitrary or unlawful interference with their privacy, including by developing technical solutions;

9. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders to participate in informal dialogues about the right to privacy, and takes note with appreciation of the contribution of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to privacy to this process;

10. *Encourages* the Human Rights Council and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to remain actively seized of the debate, and invites all relevant stakeholders to further discuss how profiling, automated decision-making and machine-learning technologies, sometimes referred to as artificial intelligence, without proper safeguards, impact the enjoyment of the right to privacy, for the purpose of clarifying existing principles and standards and identifying best practices regarding the promotion and protection of the right to privacy;

11. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-fifth session.

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<sup>584</sup> A/HRC/17/31, annex.



## RESOLUTION 73/180

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.3, para. 88)<sup>585</sup>

### 73/180. Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* that all States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations that they have undertaken under the various international instruments,

*Recalling* all previous resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including Assembly resolution 72/188 of 19 December 2017 and Council resolution 37/28 of 23 March 2018,<sup>586</sup> and mindful of the need for the international community to strengthen its coordinated efforts aimed at achieving the implementation of those resolutions,

*Deeply concerned* at the grave human rights situation, the pervasive culture of impunity and the lack of accountability for human rights violations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

*Stressing* the importance of following up on the recommendations contained in the report of the commission of inquiry on human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,<sup>587</sup> and expressing grave concern at the detailed findings contained therein,

*Welcoming* the decision of the Security Council to add the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the list of issues of which the Council is seized and the holding of an open meeting of the Council on 11 December 2017, subsequent to the ones held in 2014, 2015 and 2016, during which the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was discussed,

*Recalling* the responsibility of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to protect its population from crimes against humanity, and recalling also that the commission of inquiry urged the leadership of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to prevent and suppress crimes against humanity and to ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and brought to justice,

*Taking note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,<sup>588</sup> regretting that he still has not been allowed to visit the country and that he has received no cooperation from the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and taking note also of the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea submitted in accordance with resolution 72/188,<sup>589</sup>

*Mindful* that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>590</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>590</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>591</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women<sup>592</sup> and the

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<sup>585</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

<sup>586</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/73/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>587</sup> A/HRC/25/63.

<sup>588</sup> A/73/386.

<sup>589</sup> A/73/308.

<sup>590</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>591</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>592</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>593</sup> and recalling the concluding observations of the treaty bodies under the treaties and the importance of giving them consideration,

*Recalling* the submission, in April 2016, by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of its combined second, third and fourth periodic reports on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women<sup>594</sup> and of its combined fifth and sixth periodic reports on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>595</sup> and the subsequent reviews in 2017 by the relevant committees, and urging full implementation of these Conventions, including the recommendations contained in the concluding observations from the aforementioned reviews,

*Noting* the visit of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the rights of persons with disabilities to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in 2017, encouraging the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to implement all of the recommendations contained in the report of the Special Rapporteur on her visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea submitted to the Human Rights Council at its thirty-seventh session,<sup>596</sup> and noting the participation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the Paralympic Winter Games held in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea,

*Stressing* the importance of extending the cooperation of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea also to other United Nations special procedures and human rights mechanisms, including the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in accordance with their terms of reference,

*Acknowledging* the participation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the second universal periodic review process, noting the acceptance by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of 113 out of the 268 recommendations contained in the outcome of the review<sup>597</sup> and its stated commitment to implement them and look into the possibility of implementing a further 58 recommendations, while expressing its concern that the recommendations have not been implemented thus far,

*Noting* the collaboration established between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization in order to improve the health situation in the country,

*Noting also* the collaboration established between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United Nations Children's Fund to improve the nutritional status of children and the quality of children's education,

*Noting further* the activities undertaken by the United Nations Development Programme, on a modest scale, in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and encouraging the engagement of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with the international community to ensure that the programmes benefit the persons in need of assistance,

*Noting* the cooperation between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on food security assessments, underscoring the importance of those assessments in analysing changes in the national, household and individual food security and nutritional situation and thereby in supporting donor confidence in the targeting of aid programmes, noting also the letter of understanding signed by the Government and the World Food Programme and the importance of further improvements in operating conditions, bringing access and monitoring arrangements closer to international standards for all United Nations entities, and noting with appreciation the work of international aid operators,

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<sup>593</sup> Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>594</sup> [CEDAW/C/PRK/2-4](#).

<sup>595</sup> [CRC/C/PRK/5](#).

<sup>596</sup> [A/HRC/37/56/Add.1](#).

<sup>597</sup> [A/HRC/27/10](#).

*Taking note* of the United Nations humanitarian report entitled “Democratic People’s Republic of Korea 2018: needs and priorities” and its call to address the critical humanitarian needs in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea,

*Taking note also* of the strategic framework for cooperation between the United Nations and the Government of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea for the period 2017–2021 and the Government’s commitment in accordance with the principles, goals and targets of the Sustainable Development Goals<sup>598</sup> and in line with its commitments to international agreements and conventions,

*Noting with concern* the findings of the United Nations that over 10 million people in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea are estimated to be undernourished and that most children under 24 months of age and 50 per cent of pregnant and breastfeeding women have insufficient dietary diversity, leading to micronutrient deficiencies and an unacceptably high prevalence of chronic and acute malnutrition, condemning the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea for diverting its resources into pursuing nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles over the welfare of its people, and emphasizing the necessity for the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to respect and ensure the welfare and inherent dignity of the people in the country, as referred to by the Security Council in its resolutions [2321 \(2016\)](#) of 30 November 2016, [2371 \(2017\)](#) of 5 August 2017, [2375 \(2017\)](#) of 11 September 2017 and [2397 \(2017\)](#) of 22 December 2017,

*Noting* the urgency and importance of the issue of international abductions and of the immediate return of all abductees, as well as the long years of suffering experienced by abductees and their families, expressing grave concern at the lack of positive action by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea since the investigations on all the Japanese nationals commenced on the basis of the government-level consultations held between the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and Japan in May 2014, and expecting the resolution of all issues related to the Japanese nationals, in particular the return of all abductees, to be achieved at the earliest possible date,

*Noting also* the urgency and importance of the issue of separated families, and in this regard welcoming the resumption of the reunions of separated families across the border in August 2018 and the commitments made on this issue at the inter-Korean summit held on 19 September 2018 to strengthen humanitarian cooperation to fundamentally resolve the issue of separated families,

*Welcoming and further encouraging* the efforts of Member States to raise international awareness about the human rights situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, and noting that human rights, including gender equality, are intrinsically linked to peace and security,

*Welcoming* the ongoing diplomatic efforts, and noting the importance of dialogue and engagements for the improvement of the human rights and humanitarian situation in the country,

*Underlining* the efforts of the Secretary-General to contribute to improving inter-Korean relations and promoting reconciliation and stability on the Korean Peninsula and the well-being of the Korean people,

1. *Condemns* the long-standing and ongoing systematic, widespread and gross violations of human rights in and by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, including those which the commission of inquiry on human rights in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, established by the Human Rights Council in its resolution [22/13](#) of 21 March 2013,<sup>599</sup> has said may amount to crimes against humanity, and the continuing impunity for such violations;

2. *Expresses its very serious concern* at:

(a) The persistence of continuing reports of violations of human rights, including the detailed findings made by the commission of inquiry in its report,<sup>587</sup> such as:

(i) Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including inhuman conditions of detention; rape; public executions; extrajudicial and arbitrary detention; the absence of due process and the rule of law, including fair trial guarantees and an independent judiciary; extrajudicial, summary and arbitrary executions; the imposition of the death penalty for political and religious reasons; collective punishments extending up to three generations; and the extensive use of forced labour;

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<sup>598</sup> See resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>599</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/68/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

- (ii) The existence of an extensive system of political prison camps, where a vast number of persons are deprived of their liberty and subjected to deplorable conditions, including forced labour, and where alarming violations of human rights are perpetrated;
- (iii) The forcible transfer of populations and the limitations imposed on every person who wishes to move freely within the country and travel abroad, including the punishment of those who leave or try to leave the country without permission, or their families, as well as punishment of persons who are returned;
- (iv) The situation of refugees and asylum seekers expelled or returned to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and retaliations against citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who have been repatriated from abroad, leading to punishments of internment, torture, other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, sexual violence or the death penalty, and in this regard strongly urges all States to respect the fundamental principle of non-refoulement, to treat those who seek refuge humanely and to ensure unhindered access to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and his Office, with a view to protecting the human rights of those who seek refuge, and once again urges States parties to comply with their obligations under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees<sup>600</sup> and the 1967 Protocol thereto<sup>601</sup> in relation to refugees from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who are covered by those instruments;
- (v) All-pervasive and severe restrictions, both online and offline, on the freedoms of thought, conscience, religion or belief, opinion and expression, peaceful assembly and association, the right to privacy and equal access to information, by such means as the unlawful and arbitrary surveillance, persecution, torture, imprisonment and, in some instances, summary executions of individuals exercising their freedom of opinion and expression, religion or belief, and their families, and the right of everyone, including women, to take part in the conduct of public affairs, directly or through freely chosen representatives, of his or her country;
- (vi) Violations of economic, social and cultural rights, which have led to food insecurity, severe hunger, malnutrition, widespread health problems and other hardship for the population in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in particular for women, children, persons with disabilities, older persons and political prisoners;
- (vii) Violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women and girls, in particular the creation of internal conditions that force women and girls to leave the country and make them extremely vulnerable to trafficking in persons for the purpose of prostitution, domestic servitude or forced marriage and the subjection of women and girls to gender-based discrimination, including in the political and social spheres, forced abortions and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence;
- (viii) Violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children, in particular the continued lack of access to basic economic, social and cultural rights for many children, and in this regard notes the particularly vulnerable situation faced by, inter alia, returned or repatriated children, street children, children with disabilities, children whose parents are detained, children living in detention or in institutions and children in conflict with the law;
- (ix) Violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, especially violations involving the use of collective camps and coercive measures that target the rights of persons with disabilities to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children and allegations of the possible use of persons with disabilities in medical testing, forced relocation to rural areas and separation of children with disabilities from their parents;
- (x) Violations of workers' rights, including the right to freedom of association and effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining, the right to strike as defined by the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>590</sup> and the prohibition of the economic exploitation of children and of any harmful or hazardous work of children as defined by the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>591</sup> as well as the exploitation of workers sent abroad from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to work under conditions that reportedly amount to forced labour, recalling paragraph 11 of Security

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<sup>600</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

<sup>601</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 606, No. 8791.

Council resolution [2371 \(2017\)](#) and paragraph 17 of resolution [2375 \(2017\)](#), in which the Council decided that Member States shall not provide work authorizations for nationals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in their jurisdictions, and also recalling paragraph 8 of Council resolution [2397 \(2017\)](#), in which the Council decided that Member States shall repatriate to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea all nationals from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea earning income in that Member State's jurisdiction and all government safety oversight attachés of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea monitoring workers from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea abroad immediately, but not later than 24 months from 22 December 2017, unless the Member State determines that a Democratic People's Republic of Korea national is a national of that Member State or a Democratic People's Republic of Korea national's repatriation is prohibited, subject to applicable national and international law, including international refugee law and international human rights law, the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations<sup>602</sup> and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,<sup>603</sup> and urges the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to promote, respect and protect the human rights of workers, including workers repatriated to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(xi) Discrimination based on the *songbun* system, which classifies people on the basis of State-assigned social class and birth and also includes consideration of political opinions and religion;

(xii) Violence and discrimination against women, including unequal access to employment, discriminatory laws and regulations;

(b) The continued refusal of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to extend an invitation to the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea or to extend cooperation to the Special Rapporteur and several other United Nations special procedures in accordance with their terms of reference, as well as to other United Nations human rights mechanisms;

(c) The continued lack of acknowledgement by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of the grave human rights situation in the country and its consequential lack of action to report on the state of implementation of the recommendations contained in the outcome of its first universal periodic review<sup>604</sup> and to give consideration to the concluding observations of the treaty bodies;

3. *Condemns* the systematic abduction, denial of repatriation and subsequent enforced disappearance of persons, including those from other countries, on a large scale and as a matter of State policy, and in this regard strongly calls upon the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea urgently to resolve these issues of international concern, in a transparent manner, including by ensuring the immediate return of abductees;

4. *Underscores its very serious concern* regarding reports of torture, summary executions, arbitrary detention, abductions and other forms of human rights violations and abuses that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea commits against citizens of other countries within and outside of its territory;

5. *Expresses its very deep concern* at the precarious humanitarian situation in the country, which could rapidly deteriorate owing to limited resilience to natural disasters and to government policies causing limitations in the availability of and access to adequate food, compounded by structural weaknesses in agricultural production resulting in significant shortages of diversified food and the State restrictions on the cultivation of and trade in foodstuffs, as well as the prevalence of chronic and acute malnutrition, particularly among the most vulnerable groups, pregnant and lactating women, children, persons with disabilities, older persons and political prisoners, and urges the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in this regard, to take preventive and remedial action, cooperating with international donor agencies and in accordance with international standards for monitoring humanitarian assistance;

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<sup>602</sup> See resolution [169 \(II\)](#).

<sup>603</sup> Resolution [22 A \(I\)](#).

<sup>604</sup> [A/HRC/13/13](#).

6. *Welcomes* the latest report to the Human Rights Council of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,<sup>605</sup>

7. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the report of the group of independent experts on accountability for human rights violations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea<sup>606</sup> established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 31/18 of 23 March 2016,<sup>607</sup> including options to seek accountability and secure truth and justice for all victims;

8. *Welcomes* steps taken pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 34/24 of 24 March 2017<sup>608</sup> to strengthen the capacity of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, including its field-based structure in Seoul, to allow the implementation of relevant recommendations made by the group of independent experts on accountability aimed at strengthening current monitoring and documentation efforts, establishing a central repository for information and evidence and having experts in legal accountability assess all information and testimonies with a view to developing possible strategies to be used in any future accountability process, and strongly encourages the Office of the High Commissioner to expedite the process for strengthening the capacity of the Office;

9. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the work of the commission of inquiry, recognizes the continuing importance of its report, and regrets that the commission received no cooperation from the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including with regard to access to the country;

10. *Acknowledges* the commission's finding that the body of testimony gathered and the information received provide reasonable grounds to believe that crimes against humanity have been committed in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, pursuant to policies established at the highest level of the State for decades and by institutions under the effective control of its leadership;

11. *Expresses its concern* at the failure of the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to prosecute those responsible for human rights violations, including violations which the commission of inquiry has said may amount to crimes against humanity, and encourages the international community to cooperate with accountability efforts and to ensure that such crimes do not remain unpunished;

12. *Encourages* the Security Council to continue its consideration of the relevant conclusions and recommendations of the commission of inquiry and take appropriate action to ensure accountability, including through consideration of referral of the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the International Criminal Court and consideration of the further development of sanctions in order to target effectively those who appear to be most responsible for human rights violations that the commission has said may constitute crimes against humanity;

13. *Also encourages* the Security Council to continue to discuss the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including the country's human rights situation, in the light of the serious concerns expressed in the present resolution, and looks forward to its continued and more active engagement on this matter;

14. *Encourages* the continuing endeavours of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights field-based structure in Seoul, and welcomes its regular reporting to the Human Rights Council;

15. *Calls upon* Member States to undertake to ensure that the field-based structure of the Office of the High Commissioner can function with independence, has sufficient resources and support to fulfil its mandate, enjoys full cooperation with relevant Member States and is not subjected to any reprisals or threats;

16. *Strongly urges* the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to respect fully all human rights and fundamental freedoms and, in this regard:

(a) To immediately put an end to the systematic, widespread and grave violations of human rights emphasized above, inter alia, by implementing fully the measures set out in the above-mentioned resolutions of the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council, and the recommendations addressed

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<sup>605</sup> A/HRC/37/69.

<sup>606</sup> A/HRC/34/66/Add.1.

<sup>607</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/71/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>608</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/72/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.



## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by the Council in the context of the universal periodic review and by the commission of inquiry, the United Nations special procedures and treaty bodies;

(b) To immediately close the political prison camps and to release all political prisoners unconditionally and without any delay;

(c) To protect its inhabitants, address the issue of impunity and ensure that those responsible for crimes involving violations of human rights are brought to justice before an independent judiciary;

(d) To tackle the root causes leading to refugee outflows and prosecute those who exploit refugees through migrant smuggling, trafficking in human beings and extortion, while not criminalizing refugees and the victims of trafficking;

(e) To ensure that everyone within the territory of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea enjoys the right to liberty of movement and is free to leave the country, including for the purpose of seeking asylum outside the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, without interference by the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(f) To ensure that citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who are expelled or returned to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are able to return in safety and dignity, are treated humanely and are not subjected to any kind of punishment, and to provide information on their status and treatment;

(g) To provide citizens of other countries detained in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with protections, including freedom of communication with, and access to, consular officers in accordance with the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,<sup>609</sup> to which the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a party, and any other necessary arrangements to confirm their status and to communicate with their families;

(h) To extend its full cooperation to the Special Rapporteur, including by granting him full, free and unimpeded access to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and to other special procedures of the Human Rights Council as well as to other United Nations human rights mechanisms so that a full needs assessment of the human rights situation may be made;

(i) To engage in technical cooperation activities in the field of human rights with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and her Office, as pursued by the High Commissioner in recent years, with a view to improving the situation of human rights in the country;

(j) To implement the accepted recommendations stemming from the universal periodic review and to consider positively those recommendations which are still under consideration, and to submit a report to the Human Rights Council for consideration during the third review cycle;

(k) To become a member of the International Labour Organization, to enact legislation and adopt practices to comply with international labour standards and to consider ratifying all the relevant conventions, in particular the core labour conventions of the International Labour Organization;

(l) To continue and reinforce its cooperation with United Nations humanitarian agencies;

(m) To ensure full, safe and unhindered access to humanitarian aid, as well as to critical data, and take measures to allow humanitarian agencies to secure the impartial delivery of such aid to all parts of the country, including detention facilities, on the basis of need in accordance with humanitarian principles, as it pledged to do, to ensure access to adequate food and implement more effective food security and nutrition policies, including through sustainable agriculture, sound food production and distribution measures and the allocation of more funds to the food sector, and to ensure adequate monitoring of humanitarian assistance;

(n) To further improve cooperation with the United Nations country team members and development agencies so that they can directly contribute to improving the living conditions of the civilian population, including progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;<sup>598</sup>

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<sup>609</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

(o) To consider ratifying and acceding to the remaining international human rights treaties, which would enable a dialogue with the human rights treaty bodies, to resume reporting to monitoring bodies on treaties to which it is a party, to participate meaningfully in treaty body reviews, and to give consideration to the concluding observations of such bodies in order to improve the human rights situation in the country;

17. *Urges* the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to implement the recommendations of the commission of inquiry without delay;

18. *Reiterates* the importance of maintaining high on the international agenda the grave human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including through sustained communications, advocacy and outreach initiatives, and requests the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to strengthen those activities;

19. *Encourages* all Member States, the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Office of the High Commissioner, the United Nations Secretariat, relevant specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and forums, civil society organizations, foundations and engaged business enterprises and other stakeholders towards which the commission of inquiry has directed recommendations to implement or take forward those recommendations;

20. *Encourages* the United Nations system as a whole to continue to address the grave human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in a coordinated and unified manner;

21. *Encourages* the relevant United Nations programmes, funds, specialized agencies and other related organizations to assist the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the implementation of recommendations stemming from the universal periodic review and from the report of the commission of inquiry;

22. *Calls upon* the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to engage constructively with international interlocutors with a view to promoting concrete improvements in the human rights situation on the ground, including through human rights dialogues, official visits to the country that include adequate access to fully assess human rights conditions, cooperation initiatives and more people-to-people contact as a matter of priority;

23. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at its seventy-fourth session, and to this end requests the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and requests the Special Rapporteur to continue to report his findings and recommendations, as well as to report on the follow-up to the implementation of the recommendations of the commission of inquiry.

### RESOLUTION 73/181

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.3, para. 88),<sup>610</sup> by a recorded vote of 84 to 30, with 67 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu, Yemen

*Against:* Afghanistan, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Serbia, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

<sup>610</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

*Abstaining:* Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Zambia

### 73/181. Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>611</sup> the International Covenants on Human Rights<sup>612</sup> and other international human rights instruments,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the most recent of which is resolution 72/189 of 19 December 2017,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 72/189<sup>613</sup> and the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran,<sup>614</sup> submitted pursuant to Council resolution 37/30 of 23 March 2018;<sup>615</sup>

2. *Recalls* the pledges made by the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran with regard to improving the human rights situation in the country;

3. *Welcomes* the amendments made to the Anti-Narcotics Law, passed in October 2017, which eliminated the mandatory imposition of the death penalty for certain drug-related offences and which have so far led to a significant drop in drug-related executions, while noting that many cases still have yet to be reviewed in accordance with those amendments, and encourages those within the judiciary who are responsible for applying the law to continue to convert drug-related death sentences to prison terms;

4. *Notes* the approval by the Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Iran of the Bill for Protection of the Rights of Children and Youth, in July 2018, which, if adopted and implemented, would mark an important step forward in protecting individuals from violence and abuse;

5. *Recalls* the commitments made by the Iranian authorities with regard to improving the situation of women, and notes in this regard the introduction of the Comprehensive Bill on Ensuring the Protection of Women against Violence;

6. *Welcomes* the engagement of the Islamic Republic of Iran with human rights treaty bodies, including through the submission of periodic reports, and notes in particular the engagement of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its participation in the universal periodic review;

7. *Also welcomes* the continuing efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host large numbers of Afghan refugees and to grant them access to basic services, in particular access to health care and education for children;

8. *Further welcomes* the ongoing contact with and dialogue between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as the invitations extended to other special procedures mandate holders;

9. *Welcomes* the expressed readiness of the Iranian High Council for Human Rights and other Iranian officials to engage in bilateral dialogues on human rights;

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<sup>611</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>612</sup> Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>613</sup> A/73/299.

<sup>614</sup> A/73/398.

<sup>615</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/73/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

10. *Expresses serious concern*, notwithstanding the previously noted reduction so far in the number of executions for drug-related crimes, at the alarmingly high frequency of the imposition and carrying-out of the death penalty by the Islamic Republic of Iran, in violation of its international obligations, including the imposition of the death penalty against minors and persons who at the time of their offence were under the age of 18, in violation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>616</sup> and executions undertaken against persons on the basis of forced confessions or for crimes that do not qualify as the most serious crimes, including crimes that are overly broad or vaguely defined, in violation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>612</sup> expresses concern at the continuing disregard for internationally recognized safeguards, including executions undertaken without notification of the prisoner's family members or legal counsel, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to abolish, in law and in practice, public executions, which are contrary to the 2008 directive seeking to end this practice issued by the former head of the judiciary;

11. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to ensure, in law and in practice, that no one is subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, which may include sexual violence, and punishments that are grossly disproportionate to the nature of the offence, in conformity with amendments to the Penal Code, the constitutional guarantees of the Islamic Republic of Iran and international obligations;

12. *Urges* the Islamic Republic of Iran to cease the widespread and systematic use of arbitrary detention, including the use of this practice to target dual and foreign nationals, to release those who have been arbitrarily detained and to uphold, in law and in practice, procedural guarantees to ensure fair trial standards, including timely access to legal representation of one's choice from the time of arrest through all stages of trial and all appeals, the right not to be subjected to torture, cruel and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and consideration of bail and other reasonable terms for release from custody pending trial;

13. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to release persons detained for the exercise of their human rights and fundamental freedoms, including those who have been detained solely for taking part in peaceful protests, to consider rescinding unduly harsh sentences, including those involving the death penalty and long-term internal exile, and to end reprisals against individuals, including for cooperating or attempting to cooperate with the United Nations human rights mechanisms;

14. *Also calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to address the poor conditions of prisons, to end the practice of deliberately denying prisoners access to adequate medical treatment, which creates a consequent risk of death, and to put an end to the continued and sustained house arrest of leading opposition figures from the 2009 presidential elections despite serious concerns about their health, as well as the pressure exerted upon their relatives and dependants, including through arrest, and calls upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to establish credible and independent prison oversight authorities to investigate complaints of abuse;

15. *Further calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran, including the judicial and security branches, to create and maintain, in law and in practice, a safe and enabling environment in which an independent, diverse and pluralistic civil society can operate free from hindrance and insecurity, and urges the Islamic Republic of Iran to end widespread and serious restrictions, in law and in practice, on the right to freedom of expression and opinion, including in digital contexts, and the right to freedom of association and peaceful assembly, and to end its harassment, intimidation and persecution of political opponents, human rights defenders, women's and minority rights defenders, labour leaders, students' rights defenders, environmentalists, academics, film-makers, journalists, bloggers, social media users and social media page administrators, media workers, religious leaders, artists, lawyers and their families and persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities and their families, wherever it may occur;

16. *Strongly urges* the Islamic Republic of Iran to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against women and girls, including with respect to the right to freedom of movement, the right to enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, the right to freedom of religion or belief and the right to work, to take measures to ensure protection for women and girls against violence and their equal protection and access to justice, to address the concerning incidence of child, early and forced marriage, as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child, to promote, support and enable women's participation in political and other decision-making processes, and, while recognizing the high enrolment of women in all levels of

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<sup>616</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

education in the Islamic Republic of Iran, to lift restrictions on women's equal access to all aspects of education and women's equal participation in the labour market and in all aspects of economic, cultural, social and political life;

17. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against persons belonging to ethnic, linguistic, recognized or unrecognized religious minorities or other minorities, including but not limited to Arabs, including Ahwazi Arabs, Azeris, Balochis, Kurds and Turkmen, and their defenders;

18. *Expresses serious concern* about ongoing severe limitations and restrictions on the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, restrictions on the establishment of places of worship, attacks against places of worship and burial and other human rights violations, including but not limited to harassment, intimidation, persecution, arbitrary arrests and detention, denial of access to education and incitement to hatred that leads to violence against persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities, including Christians, Gonabadi Dervishes, Jews, Sufi Muslims, Sunni Muslims, Yarsanis, Zoroastrians and members of the Baha'i faith and their defenders in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to release all religious practitioners imprisoned for their membership in or activities on behalf of a recognized or unrecognized minority religious group, including the remaining imprisoned member of the Baha'i leadership, whom the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention of the Human Rights Council has declared to have been arbitrarily detained since 2008;

19. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination on the basis of thought, conscience, religion or belief, including economic restrictions, such as the closure or confiscation of businesses and properties, the cancellation of licences and the denial of employment in certain public and private sectors, including government or military positions and elected office, and other human rights violations against persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities, and to end impunity for those who commit crimes against persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities;

20. *Also calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to launch a comprehensive accountability process in response to all cases of serious human rights violations, including allegations of excessive use of force against peaceful protesters and cases of suspicious deaths in custody, as well as violations involving the Iranian judiciary and security agencies, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to end impunity for such violations;

21. *Further calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to implement its obligations under those human rights treaties to which it is already a party, to withdraw any reservations that are imprecise or could be considered incompatible with the object and purpose of the treaty, to consider acting upon the concluding observations concerning the Islamic Republic of Iran adopted by the bodies of the international human rights treaties to which it is a party and to consider ratifying or acceding to the international human rights treaties to which it is not already a party;

22. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to deepen its engagement with international human rights mechanisms by:

(a) Cooperating fully with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, including by accepting the repeated requests made by the Special Rapporteur to visit the country in order to carry out the mandate;

(b) Increasing cooperation with other special mechanisms, including by facilitating long-standing requests for access to the country from thematic special procedures mandate holders, whose access to its territory has been restricted or denied, despite the standing invitation issued by the Islamic Republic of Iran, without imposing undue conditions upon those visits;

(c) Continuing to enhance its cooperation with the treaty bodies, including by submitting overdue reports under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination<sup>617</sup> and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;<sup>612</sup>

(d) Implementing all accepted universal periodic review recommendations from its first cycle, in 2010, and its second cycle, in 2014, with the full and genuine participation of independent civil society and other stakeholders in the implementation process, and by engaging constructively in its upcoming third cycle in 2019;

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<sup>617</sup> Ibid., vol. 660, No. 9464.

(e) Building upon the engagement of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the universal periodic review process by continuing to explore cooperation on human rights and justice reform with the United Nations, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

(f) Following through on its commitment to establish an independent national human rights institution, made in the context of both its first and its second universal periodic reviews by the Human Rights Council, with due regard for the recommendation of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

23. *Also calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to continue to translate the pledges made by the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran with respect to human rights concerns into concrete action that results in demonstrable improvements as soon as possible and to ensure that its national laws are consistent with its obligations under international human rights law and that they are implemented in accordance with its international obligations;

24. *Further calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to address the substantive concerns highlighted in the reports of the Secretary-General and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as the specific calls to action found in previous resolutions of the General Assembly, and to respect fully its human rights obligations in law and in practice;

25. *Strongly encourages* the relevant thematic special procedures mandate holders to pay particular attention to, with a view to investigating and reporting on, the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including options and recommendations to improve its implementation, and to submit an interim report to the Human Rights Council at its fortieth session;

27. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran at its seventy-fourth session under the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”.

## RESOLUTION 73/182

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.3, para. 88),<sup>618</sup> by a recorded vote of 111 to 15, with 55 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen

*Against:* Algeria, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mauritania, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

*Abstaining:* Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia

<sup>618</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Yemen.



### 73/182. Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided by the Charter of the United Nations,*

*Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>619</sup> and relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenants on Human Rights,<sup>620</sup>*

*Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic and to the principles of the Charter,*

*Recalling its resolutions 66/176 of 19 December 2011, 66/253 A of 16 February 2012, 66/253 B of 3 August 2012, 67/183 of 20 December 2012, 67/262 of 15 May 2013, 68/182 of 18 December 2013, 69/189 of 18 December 2014, 70/234 of 23 December 2015, 71/130 of 9 December 2016, 71/203 of 19 December 2016, 71/248 of 21 December 2016 and 72/191 of 19 December 2017, Human Rights Council resolutions S-16/1 of 29 April 2011,<sup>621</sup> S-17/1 of 23 August 2011,<sup>621</sup> S-18/1 of 2 December 2011,<sup>622</sup> 19/1 of 1 March 2012,<sup>623</sup> 19/22 of 23 March 2012,<sup>623</sup> S-19/1 of 1 June 2012,<sup>624</sup> 20/22 of 6 July 2012,<sup>625</sup> 21/26 of 28 September 2012,<sup>626</sup> 22/24 of 22 March 2013,<sup>627</sup> 23/1 of 29 May 2013,<sup>628</sup> 23/26 of 14 June 2013,<sup>628</sup> 24/22 of 27 September 2013,<sup>629</sup> 25/23 of 28 March 2014,<sup>630</sup> 26/23 of 27 June 2014,<sup>631</sup> 27/16 of 25 September 2014,<sup>632</sup> 28/20 of 27 March 2015,<sup>633</sup> 29/16 of 2 July 2015,<sup>634</sup> 30/10 of 1 October 2015,<sup>635</sup> 31/17 of 23 March 2016,<sup>636</sup> 32/25 of 1 July 2016,<sup>637</sup> 33/23 of 30 September 2016,<sup>638</sup> S-25/1 of 21 October 2016,<sup>639</sup> 34/26 of 24 March 2017,<sup>640</sup> 35/26 of 23 June 2017,<sup>641</sup> 36/20 of 29 September 2017<sup>642</sup> and 39/15 of 28 September 2018<sup>643</sup> and Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, 2042 (2012) of 14 April 2012, 2043 (2012) of 21 April 2012, 2118 (2013) of 27 September 2013, 2139 (2014) of 22 February 2014, 2165 (2014) of 14 July 2014, 2170 (2014) of 15 August 2014, 2178 (2014) of 24 September 2014, 2191 (2014) of 17 December 2014, 2209 (2015) of 6 March 2015, 2235 (2015) of 7 August 2015, 2254 (2015) of 18 December 2015, 2258 (2015) of 22 December 2015, 2268 (2016) of 26 February 2016, 2286 (2016) of 3 May 2016, 2314 (2016) of 31 October 2016, 2319 (2016) of 17 November 2016, 2328 (2016) of 19 December 2016, 2332 (2016) of*

<sup>619</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>620</sup> Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>621</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/66/53)*, chap. I.

<sup>622</sup> *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53B* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.2 and A/66/53/Add.2/Corr.1), chap. II.

<sup>623</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and A/67/53/Corr.1), chap. III, sect. A.

<sup>624</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. V.

<sup>625</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>626</sup> *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53A (A/67/53/Add.1)*, chap. III.

<sup>627</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/68/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>628</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>629</sup> *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53A (A/68/53/Add.1)*, chap. III.

<sup>630</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/69/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>631</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>632</sup> *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1, A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.1 and A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.2), chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>633</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/70/53)*, chap. II.

<sup>634</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>635</sup> *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53A (A/70/53/Add.1)*, chap. II.

<sup>636</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/71/53)*, chap. II.

<sup>637</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>638</sup> *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.1 and A/71/53/Add.1/Corr.1), chap. II.

<sup>639</sup> *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53B* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.2 and A/71/53/Add.2/Corr.1), chap. II.

<sup>640</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/72/53)*, chap. II.

<sup>641</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>642</sup> *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53A (A/72/53/Add.1)*, chap. III.

<sup>643</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/73/53/Add.1)*, chap. III.

21 December 2016, [2336 \(2016\)](#) of 31 December 2016, [2393 \(2017\)](#) of 19 December 2017 and [2401 \(2018\)](#) of 24 February 2018, and the statements by the President of the Council of 3 August 2011,<sup>644</sup> 2 October 2013<sup>645</sup> and 17 August 2015,<sup>646</sup>

*Strongly condemning* the grave human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, the indiscriminate killing and deliberate targeting of civilians as such, including those involving the continued indiscriminate use of heavy weapons and aerial bombardments, which has caused more than 400,000 fatalities, including the killing of more than 17,000 children, the continued widespread and systematic gross violations, as well as abuses, of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, including by the starvation of civilians as a method of warfare and the use of chemical weapons, including chlorine gas, sarin and sulfur mustard, which are prohibited under international law, and acts of violence that foment sectarian tensions by the Syrian authorities against the Syrian population,

*Reiterating* that the only sustainable solution to the current crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic is through an inclusive and Syrian-led political process, under the auspices of the United Nations, that meets the legitimate aspirations of the Syrian people and the establishment of a constitutional committee that would prepare the work for free and fair elections and political transition in line with Security Council resolution [2254 \(2015\)](#), with a view to establishing credible, inclusive and non-sectarian governance, with the full and meaningful participation of women, reaffirming in this regard the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding, and stressing the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution,

*Expressing its full support* for the efforts of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria to establish urgently a credible and legitimate constitutional committee to advance the efforts of the United Nations to achieve a sustainable political solution to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic in line with Security Council resolution [2254 \(2015\)](#), and recalling that pursuant to Council resolution [2254 \(2015\)](#) a political solution to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic also comprises free and fair elections, under the supervision of the United Nations, to the satisfaction of the governance and to the highest international standards of transparency and accountability, with all Syrians, including displaced persons and refugees, eligible to participate, as well as the establishment of a neutral and safe environment,

*Reconfirming* its endorsement of the Geneva communiqué of 30 June 2012,<sup>647</sup> endorsing the joint statement on the outcome of the multilateral talks on Syria, held in Vienna, of 30 October 2015 and the statement of the International Syria Support Group of 14 November 2015 (the Vienna statements) in pursuit of the full implementation of the Geneva communiqué, facilitated by the Special Envoy, as the basis for a Syrian-led and Syrian-owned political transition in order to end the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, and stressing that the Syrian people will decide the future of the Syrian Arab Republic,

*Noting with deep concern* the culture of impunity for the most serious violations of international law and violations and abuses of human rights law committed during the present conflict, which has provided a fertile ground for further violations and abuses,

*Recalling* that, amid expressions of popular discontent over restrictions on the enjoyment of civil, political, economic and social rights, civilian protests erupted in Dar'a in March 2011, and noting that the violent oppression of civilian protests by the Syrian authorities, which later escalated to the direct shelling of civilians, fuelled the escalation of armed violence and violent extremist groups, and terrorist groups, including so-called ISIL (also known as Da'esh), Nusrah Front (also known as Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham), Al-Qaida-affiliated terrorist groups, and all other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida or ISIL so designated by the Security Council, and other violent extremist groups,

*Recalling also* the specific obligations under international humanitarian law to respect and protect, in situations of armed conflict, medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means

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<sup>644</sup> [S/PRST/2011/16](#); see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2011–31 July 2012* ([S/INF/67](#)).

<sup>645</sup> [S/PRST/2013/15](#); see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013–31 July 2014* ([S/INF/69](#)).

<sup>646</sup> [S/PRST/2015/15](#); see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2015–31 December 2016* ([S/INF/71](#)).

<sup>647</sup> Security Council resolution [2118 \(2013\)](#), annex II.

of transport and equipment, and hospitals and other medical facilities, and to ensure that the wounded and sick receive, to the fullest extent practicable and with the least possible delay, the medical care and attention required, recalling also that, under international law, attacks intentionally directed against hospitals and places where the sick and wounded are collected, provided that they are not military objectives, as well as attacks intentionally directed against buildings, material, medical units and transport and personnel using the distinctive emblems of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949<sup>648</sup> in conformity with international law are war crimes, and recalling the applicable rules of international humanitarian law relating to the non-punishment of any person for carrying out medical activities compatible with medical ethics,

*Expressing grave concern* at the indiscriminate use of force by the Syrian authorities against civilians, which has caused immense human suffering and fomented the spread of extremism and extremist groups and which demonstrates the continuing failure of the Syrian authorities to protect the population and implement the relevant resolutions and decisions of United Nations bodies and has created a safe haven for crimes against humanity,

*Expressing grave concern also* at the remaining presence of extremism and violent extremist groups, terrorism and terrorist groups, and strongly condemning all violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law committed in the Syrian Arab Republic by any party to the conflict, in particular so-called ISIL (also known as Da'esh), Nusrah Front, Al-Qaida-affiliated terrorist groups, militias fighting on behalf of the regime and other violent extremist groups,

*Noting with serious concern* the observation of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic that non-State armed groups still resort to the use of force against civilians,

*Reaffirming its condemnation in the strongest possible terms* of the use of chemical weapons by anyone under any circumstances, emphasizing that any use of chemical weapons anywhere, at any time, by anyone, under any circumstances, is unacceptable and is and would be a violation of international law, and expressing its strong conviction that those individuals responsible for the use of chemical weapons must and should be held accountable,

*Condemning in the strongest possible terms* the fact that chemical weapons have been used since 2012 in the Syrian Arab Republic, including as reported by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism in its reports of 2016 and 2017,<sup>649</sup> concluding that the Syrian Arab Armed Forces were responsible for the attacks which released toxic substances in Tallmannis in 2014 and in Sarmin and Qaminas in 2015, that ISIL (also known as Da'esh) used sulfur mustard in Mari' in 2015 and in Umm Hawsh in 2016 and that the Syrian Arab Republic was responsible for the release of sarin at Khan Shaykhun in 2017, accordingly noting with great concern the reports of the fact-finding mission of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons regarding alleged incidents in Lataminah<sup>650</sup> and Saraqib,<sup>651</sup> as well as its interim report regarding the alleged use of toxic chemicals as a weapon in Duma,<sup>652</sup> and demanding that the perpetrators immediately desist from any further use of chemical weapons,

*Expressing support* for the work carried out by the Commission of Inquiry, welcoming its reports, strongly condemning the lack of cooperation by the Syrian authorities with the Commission of Inquiry, reiterating its decision to transmit the reports of the Commission of Inquiry to the Security Council, expressing its appreciation to the Commission of Inquiry for its briefings to members of the Security Council, and requesting that the Commission of Inquiry continue to brief the General Assembly and members of the Security Council,

*Noting with serious concern* the observation of the Commission of Inquiry that, since March 2011, the Syrian authorities have conducted widespread attacks against the civilian population as a matter of policy, including targeted attacks against protected persons and objects, including medical facilities, personnel and transport and blocked humanitarian convoys, as well as enforced disappearances, torture in detention, summary executions and other violations and abuses, and underscoring the need for those allegations to be examined and evidence to be collected and made available for future accountability efforts,

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<sup>648</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

<sup>649</sup> See S/2016/738/Rev.1, S/2016/888 and S/2017/904.

<sup>650</sup> See S/2017/931, annex, and S/2018/620, annex,

<sup>651</sup> See S/2018/478, annex.

<sup>652</sup> See S/2018/732, annex.

*Strongly condemning* the reported killing of detainees in Syrian military intelligence facilities and the widespread practice of enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and the use of sexual and gender-based violence and torture in detention centres referred to in the reports of the Commission of Inquiry, including, but not limited to, Branch 215, Branch 227, Branch 235, Branch 251, the Air Force Intelligence Investigation Branch at Mazzah military airport and Saydnaya prison, including the reported practice of mass hangings by the authorities, as well as the reported killing of detainees at military hospitals, including Tishrin and Harasta hospitals,

*Expressing its deepest concern* about the findings of the Commission of Inquiry and also the allegations contained in the evidence presented by “Caesar” in January 2014 regarding the torture and execution of persons incarcerated by the Syrian authorities, and underscoring the need for those allegations and similar evidence to be collected, examined and made available for future accountability efforts,

*Recalling* the statements made by the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the special procedures of the Human Rights Council that crimes against humanity and war crimes are likely to have been committed in the Syrian Arab Republic, noting the repeated encouragement by the High Commissioner for the Security Council to refer the situation to the International Criminal Court, and regretting that a draft resolution<sup>653</sup> was not adopted notwithstanding broad support from Member States,

*Noting with concern* the existence and application of Law No. 10/2018 in the national legislation of the Syrian Arab Republic and similar measures, which would have a significant detrimental impact on the rights of Syrians displaced by the conflict to claim their property and to return to their homes in a safe, voluntary and dignified manner when the situation on the ground allows it, and calling for its immediate repeal,

*Expressing concern* that the implementation of Security Council resolutions [2139 \(2014\)](#), [2165 \(2014\)](#), [2191 \(2014\)](#), [2254 \(2015\)](#), [2258 \(2015\)](#), [2268 \(2016\)](#), [2286 \(2016\)](#), [2393 \(2017\)](#) and [2401 \(2018\)](#) remains largely unfulfilled, and noting the urgent need to strengthen efforts to address the humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, including through protection of civilians and full, immediate, unimpeded and sustained humanitarian access,

*Recalling its commitment* to Security Council resolutions [2170 \(2014\)](#), [2178 \(2014\)](#), and [2253 \(2015\)](#) of 17 December 2015,

*Alarmed* that more than 5.6 million refugees, including more than 3.8 million women and children, have been forced to flee the Syrian Arab Republic and that 13.6 million people in the Syrian Arab Republic, of whom 6.5 million are internally displaced, require urgent humanitarian assistance, which has resulted in an influx of Syrian refugees into neighbouring countries, other countries in the region and beyond, and alarmed at the risk the situation presents to regional and international stability,

*Expressing its profound indignation* at the death of more than 17,000 children and the many more injured since the beginning of the peaceful protests in March 2011, and at all grave violations and abuses committed against children in contravention of applicable international law, such as their recruitment and use, killing and maiming, sexual violence, kidnapping and abductions, attacks on schools and hospitals, and denial of humanitarian access, as well as their arbitrary arrest, detention, torture and ill-treatment and their use as human shields,

*Recalling with serious concern* the findings of the Commission of Inquiry in its report entitled “Out of sight, out of mind: deaths in detention in the Syrian Arab Republic”, noting in this regard the recent issuing of death notifications of detained individuals by the Syrian authorities, which provides further indication of systematic violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law, and urging the Syrian authorities to provide families with the remains of their relatives whose fate has been disclosed, including those who have been summarily executed, to take all appropriate measures immediately to protect the lives and rights of all persons currently detained or unaccounted for and to clarify the fate of those who remain missing or are still in custody,

*Expressing its deep appreciation* for the significant efforts that have been made by neighbouring countries and other countries in the region to accommodate Syrians, while acknowledging the increasing financial, socioeconomic and political impact of the presence of large-scale refugee and displaced populations in those countries,

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<sup>653</sup> [S/2014/348](#).

*Underscoring* the critical need to support efforts for the safe and voluntary return of refugees and internally displaced persons to their home areas, including the rehabilitation of affected areas and the provision of security and material needs in accordance with international law, including applicable provisions of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees<sup>654</sup> and the Protocol thereto,<sup>655</sup> and taking into account the interests of those countries hosting refugees,

*Welcoming* the efforts of the United Nations and the League of Arab States and all diplomatic efforts to achieve a political solution to the Syrian crisis based on the final communiqué of the Action Group for Syria of 30 June 2012<sup>647</sup> and consistent with Security Council resolution 2254 (2015),

*Expressing full support* for the efforts of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, with a view to the protection of the civilian population and the full implementation of the Syrian political process that establishes credible, inclusive and non-sectarian governance in accordance with the final communiqué and consistent with Security Council resolutions 2254 (2015) and 2258 (2015), urging the Special Envoy to convene the constitutional committee in order to pave the way for the negotiation of a genuine political transition, noting with appreciation the mediation efforts to facilitate the establishment of a ceasefire in the Syrian Arab Republic, as noted by the Security Council in its resolution 2336 (2016), supporting the efforts to end violence, while expressing deep concern at the violations, demanding that all parties to the ceasefire in the Syrian Arab Republic respect their commitments, and urging all Member States, especially the members of the International Syria Support Group, to use their influence to ensure respect for those commitments and the full implementation of those resolutions, to support efforts to create conditions for a durable and lasting ceasefire, which is essential to achieving a political solution to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, and to bring to an end the systematic, widespread and gross violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law,

1. *Strongly condemns* the systematic, widespread and gross violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law committed in the Syrian Arab Republic and the indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks in civilian areas and against civilian infrastructure, in particular attacks on medical facilities and schools, which continue to claim civilian lives, and demands that all parties comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law;

2. *Deplores and condemns in the strongest terms* the continued armed violence by the Syrian authorities against its own people since the beginning of the peaceful protests in 2011, and demands that the Syrian authorities immediately put an end to all attacks on their own people, take all feasible precautions to avoid, and in any event to minimize, incidental loss of civilian life, injury to civilians and damage to civilian objects and meet their responsibilities to protect the Syrian population and immediately implement Security Council resolutions 2254 (2015), 2258 (2015) and 2286 (2016);

3. *Urges* all Member States, especially the members of the International Syria Support Group, to create conditions for continued negotiations for a political solution to the Syrian conflict, under the auspices of the United Nations, by working towards the nationwide ceasefire, to enable full, immediate and safe humanitarian access and to lead to the release of those arbitrarily detained, consistent with Security Council resolution 2254 (2015), as only a durable and inclusive political solution to the conflict can bring an end to the systematic, widespread and gross violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law;

4. *Strongly condemns* any use of chemical weapons, such as chlorine, sarin and sulfur mustard, by any party to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, emphasizes that the development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, retention, transfer or use of chemical weapons anywhere, at any time, by anyone, under any circumstances, is unacceptable, constitutes one of the most serious crimes under international law and is a violation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction<sup>656</sup> and Security Council resolution 2118 (2013), and expresses its strong conviction that individuals responsible for the development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, retention, transfer or use of chemical weapons must and should be held accountable;

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<sup>654</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

<sup>655</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 606, No. 8791.

<sup>656</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1974, No. 33757.



5. *Also strongly condemns* the continued use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic, in particular the chlorine attack on 4 February 2018 in Saraqib and the attack on 7 April 2018 in Duma, which killed dozens of men, women and children and severely injured hundreds more, recalls the decision of the Security Council that the Syrian Arab Republic shall not use, develop, produce, otherwise acquire, stockpile or retain chemical weapons, or transfer, directly or indirectly, chemical weapons to other States or non-State actors, recalls the relevant reports of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism, and demands that the Syrian regime and so-called ISIL (also known as Da'esh) immediately desist from any further use of chemical weapons;

6. *Expresses grave concern* at the reported chemical weapons attack in Duma on 7 April 2018, notes the latest report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic that a vast body of evidence suggests that chlorine was dropped by helicopter on a residential building, and looks forward to the final findings of the fact-finding mission of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons on that attack;

7. *Calls for* a significant enhancement of the verification measures of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, and welcomes the arrangements that the Organisation will put in place to identify the perpetrators of the use of chemical weapons;

8. *Demands* that the Syrian regime adhere fully to its international obligations, including the requirement that it declare in full its chemical weapons programme, with special emphasis on the need for the Syrian Arab Republic to urgently resolve the verified gaps, inconsistencies and discrepancies pertaining to its declaration in respect of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction and to eliminate its chemical weapons programme in its entirety, as referred to in the report of the Director General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons dated 22 February 2016<sup>657</sup> indicating that the Technical Secretariat is at present unable to verify fully that the declaration and related submissions of the Syrian Arab Republic are accurate and complete, as required by the Convention and decision EC-M-33/DEC.1 of the Executive Council of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons;<sup>658</sup>

9. *Requests* additional procedures for stringent verification pursuant to article IV, paragraph 8, and article V, paragraph 10, of the Convention, in order to ensure the complete destruction of the Syrian chemical weapons programme and prevent any further use of chemical weapons;

10. *Deplores and condemns in the strongest terms* the continued widespread and systematic gross violations and abuses of human rights and fundamental freedoms and all violations of international humanitarian law by the Syrian authorities, the government-affiliated militias and those who fight on their behalf, including those deliberately targeting civilians or civilian objects, including attacks on schools, hospitals and places of worship, with heavy weapons, aerial bombardments, cluster munitions, ballistic missiles, barrel bombs, chemical or other weapons and other force against civilians, as well as the starvation of the civilian population as a method of warfare, attacks on schools, hospitals and places of worship, massacres, arbitrary executions, extrajudicial killings, the killing and persecution of peaceful protesters, human rights defenders and journalists, individuals and members of communities on the basis of their religion or belief, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, violations of the human rights of women and children, forced displacement of members of minority groups and of those opposed to the Syrian regime, unlawful interference with access to medical treatment, failure to respect and protect medical personnel, torture, systematic sexual and gender-based violence, including rape in detention, and ill-treatment;

11. *Condemns unequivocally* all attacks and violence against journalists and media workers by the Syrian authorities, the government-affiliated militias and non-State armed groups, urges all parties to respect the professional independence and rights of journalists, and recalls in this regard that journalists and media workers engaged in dangerous professional missions in areas of armed conflict shall be considered civilians and shall be protected as such, provided that they take no action adversely affecting their status as civilians;

12. *Strongly condemns* all violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, including the killing and persecution of individuals and communities on the basis of their religion or beliefs, by armed extremist groups, as well as any human rights abuses or violations of international humanitarian law by non-State armed groups, including Hizbullah and those designated as terrorist groups by the Security Council;

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<sup>657</sup> EC-81/HP/DG.1.

<sup>658</sup> Security Council resolution 2118 (2013), annex I.



13. *Deplores and strongly condemns* the terrorist acts and violence committed against civilians by so-called ISIL (also known as Da'esh), Nusra Front (also known as Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham), Al-Qaida-affiliated terrorist groups, terrorist groups so designated by the Security Council and other violent extremist groups and their continued gross, systematic and widespread abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, and reaffirms that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, gender, ethnicity, nationality or civilization;

14. *Condemns in the strongest terms* the gross and systematic abuse of the human rights of women and children by all terrorist groups and armed groups, including so-called ISIL (also known as Da'esh), in particular the killing of women and girls, sexual and gender-based violence, including the enslavement and sexual exploitation and abuse of women and girls and the forced recruitment, use and abduction of children;

15. *Condemns* the reported forced displacements of the population in the Syrian Arab Republic, including forced displacement of civilians as a result of local truce agreements, as highlighted by the Commission of Inquiry, and the alarming impact thereof on the demography of the country, which amounts to a strategy of radical demographic change initiated by the Syrian authorities, its allies and other non-State actors, calls upon all parties concerned to cease immediately all activities related to these actions, including any activities that may amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity, notes that impunity for such crimes is unacceptable, reaffirms that those responsible for such breaches of international law must be brought to justice, and supports efforts to collect evidence in view of future legal action;

16. *Reminds* the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic of its obligations under the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,<sup>659</sup> including its obligation to take effective measures to prevent acts of torture in any territory under its jurisdiction, and calls upon all States parties to the Convention to comply with any relevant obligations under the Convention, including with respect to the extradite or prosecute principle contained in article 7 of the Convention;

17. *Strongly condemns* the reported persistent and widespread use of sexual violence, abuse and exploitation, including in government detention centres, including those run by the intelligence agencies, and notes that such acts may constitute violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of international human rights law, and in this regard expresses deep concern at the prevailing climate of impunity for sexual and gender-based violence;

18. *Also strongly condemns* all violations and abuses committed against children in contravention of applicable international law, such as their recruitment and use, killing and maiming, rape and all other forms of sexual violence, abductions, denial of humanitarian access for children, and attacks on civilian objects, including schools and hospitals, as well as their arbitrary arrest, unlawful detention, torture and ill-treatment and their use as human shields;

19. *Reaffirms* the Syrian authorities' responsibility for the systematic use of enforced disappearances, takes note of the assessment of the Commission of Inquiry that the Syrian authorities' use of enforced disappearances amounts to a crime against humanity, and condemns the targeted disappearances of young men and the exploitation of ceasefires as an opportunity to forcibly recruit and arbitrarily detain them;

20. *Demands* that the Syrian authorities, in accordance with their obligations under relevant provisions of international human rights law, including the right to life and the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, promote non-discriminatory access to health services and respect and protect medical and health personnel from obstruction, threats and physical attacks;

21. *Strongly condemns* all attacks on medical and health personnel, their means of transport and equipment, as well as on hospitals and other medical facilities, deplores the long-term consequences of such attacks for the population and health-care systems of the Syrian Arab Republic, and reaffirms that humanitarian workers and their means of transport, equipment and facilities must be protected in accordance with international humanitarian law;

22. *Stresses* that the situation in Idlib is of particular concern, expresses its support for the current agreement to cease hostilities in order to avoid a humanitarian catastrophe, and calls upon the guarantors of that agreement to ensure that the ceasefire is upheld;

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<sup>659</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

23. *Demands* that the Syrian authorities cooperate fully with the Commission of Inquiry, including by granting it immediate, full and unhindered access throughout the Syrian Arab Republic;

24. *Also demands* that the Syrian authorities meet their responsibilities to protect the Syrian population;

25. *Strongly condemns* the intervention in the Syrian Arab Republic of all foreign terrorist fighters and those foreign organizations and foreign forces fighting on behalf of the Syrian regime, expresses deep concern that their involvement further exacerbates the deteriorating situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, including the human rights and humanitarian situation, which has a serious negative impact on the region, and demands that all foreign terrorist fighters, and those who are fighting in support of the Syrian authorities, including all militias sponsored by foreign Governments, immediately withdraw from the Syrian Arab Republic;

26. *Demands* that all parties immediately put an end to all violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law, recalls, in particular, the obligation under international humanitarian law to distinguish between civilians and combatants and the prohibition against indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks and all attacks against civilians and civilian objects, further demands that all parties to the conflict take all appropriate steps to protect civilians, in compliance with international law, including by desisting from attacks directed against civilian objects, such as medical centres, schools and water stations, and refrain from militarizing such facilities, seek to avoid establishing military positions in densely populated areas and enable the evacuation of the wounded and all civilians who wish to leave areas of conflict, including besieged areas, and recalls in this regard that the Syrian authorities bear primary responsibility for protecting their population;

27. *Condemns in the strongest terms* all attacks on protected objects, including indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks and those which may constitute a war crime, taking place in the Syrian Arab Republic, and requests the Commission of Inquiry to continue to investigate all such acts;

28. *Recalls* the statements made by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, Mr. Staffan de Mistura, indicating that the overwhelming majority of the civilian casualties in the Syrian Arab Republic have been caused by the indiscriminate use of aerial bombardments, demands in this regard that the Syrian authorities immediately cease any attacks on civilians, any disproportionate attacks and any indiscriminate use of weapons in populated areas, and recalls in this regard the obligation to respect international humanitarian law in all circumstances;

29. *Emphasizes* the need for accountability for crimes involving breaches of international law, in particular of international humanitarian law and human rights law, some of which may constitute war crimes or crimes against humanity, committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011, through fair and independent investigations and prosecutions at the domestic or international level;

30. *Urges* all Member States and parties to the conflict to cooperate fully with the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to Assist in the Investigation and Prosecution of Persons Responsible for the Most Serious Crimes under International Law Committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011, including through the provision of relevant information and documentation, stresses its mandate to closely cooperate with the Commission of Inquiry, and also urges the Mechanism to make a particular effort to ensure consultation and cooperation with Syrian civil society organizations;

31. *Welcomes* the reports of the Mechanism for 2017 and 2018,<sup>660</sup> and invites the Head of the Mechanism to prepare the reports of the Mechanism for presentation on an annual basis in the month of April at a plenary meeting of the General Assembly, starting at its seventy-third session, under the agenda item entitled “Prevention of armed conflict”, within existing resources;

32. *Also welcomes* the voluntary contributions made by Member States to the funding of the Mechanism, invites all Member States to make additional financial contributions, and notes the steps taken by the Secretary-General in response to the call to include the necessary funding for the Mechanism in his next budget proposal;

33. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure that all those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law or violations and abuses of human rights law are held to account through appropriate, fair and independent domestic or international criminal justice mechanisms, in accordance with the principle of complementarity, stresses the need

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<sup>660</sup> A/72/764 and A/73/295.

to pursue practical steps towards this goal, and for that reason encourages the Security Council to take appropriate action to ensure accountability, noting the important role that the International Criminal Court can play in this regard;

34. *Welcomes* the efforts by States to investigate conduct in the Syrian Arab Republic and to prosecute crimes within their jurisdiction committed in the Syrian Arab Republic, encourages them to continue to do so and to share relevant information between States in accordance with their national legislation and international law, and also encourages other States to consider doing the same;

35. *Deplores* the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, and urges the international community to assume its responsibility for providing urgent financial support to enable the host countries and communities to respond to the growing humanitarian needs of Syrian refugees, while emphasizing the principle of burden-sharing;

36. *Calls upon* all members of the international community, including all donors, to fulfil their previous pledges and continue to provide much-needed support to the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other humanitarian actors to provide humanitarian assistance to the millions of Syrians displaced both internally and in host countries and communities;

37. *Welcomes* the efforts of those countries outside the region that have put in place measures and policies to assist and host Syrian refugees, encourages them to do more, and also encourages other States outside the region to consider implementing similar measures and policies, with a view to providing Syrian refugees with protection and humanitarian assistance;

38. *Strongly condemns* the intentional denial of humanitarian assistance to civilians, from whatever quarter, and in particular the denial of medical assistance and the withdrawal of water and sanitation services to civilian areas, which has recently worsened, stressing that the starvation of civilians as a method of warfare is prohibited under international law, noting especially the primary responsibility of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic in this regard, and deplores the deteriorating humanitarian situation;

39. *Demands* that the Syrian authorities and all other parties to the conflict ensure the full, immediate, unimpeded and sustained access of the United Nations and humanitarian actors, including to besieged and hard-to-reach areas, consistent with Security Council resolutions [2139 \(2014\)](#), [2165 \(2014\)](#), [2191 \(2014\)](#), [2254 \(2015\)](#), [2258 \(2015\)](#), [2332 \(2016\)](#), [2393 \(2017\)](#) and [2401 \(2018\)](#);

40. *Strongly condemns* practices, including abduction, hostage-taking, arbitrary and incommunicado detention, torture, the murder of innocent civilians and summary executions, carried out by non-State armed groups and terrorist groups so designated by the Security Council, most notably so-called ISIL (also known as Da'esh) and Nusra Front (also known as Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham), and underlines that such acts may amount to crimes against humanity;

41. *Deplores* the suffering and torture in detention centres throughout the Syrian Arab Republic, as depicted in the reports of the Commission of Inquiry and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as in the evidence presented by "Caesar" in January 2014, and in the reports of widespread killing of detainees in Syrian military intelligence facilities;

42. *Strongly condemns* the reported killing of detainees in Syrian military intelligence facilities, in particular in the Mazzah airport detention facility, the Harasta Air Force Intelligence Branch and Military Security Branches 215, 227, 235, 248 and 291, and the reported killing of detainees in Adra prison and at military hospitals, including Mazzah, Tishrin and Harasta, and expresses deep concern at reports that the regime used a crematorium to conceal a mass killing of prisoners at the Saydnaya penitentiary complex;

43. *Calls for* the appropriate international monitoring bodies to be granted access to detainees in government prisons and detention centres, including all military facilities referred to in the reports of the Commission of Inquiry;

44. *Demands* that all parties take all appropriate steps to protect civilians and persons hors de combat, including members of ethnic, religious and confessional communities, and stresses that, in this regard, the primary responsibility to protect the population of the Syrian Arab Republic lies with the Syrian authorities;

45. *Strongly condemns* the damage and destruction of the cultural heritage of the Syrian Arab Republic, in particular that of Palmyra and Aleppo, and the organized looting and trafficking of Syrian cultural property, as outlined

by the Security Council in its resolutions 2199 (2015) of 12 February 2015 and 2347 (2017) of 24 March 2017, affirms that attacks intentionally directed against historic monuments may amount to war crimes, and underlines the need to bring the perpetrators of such crimes to justice;

46. *Urges* all parties to the conflict to take all appropriate steps to ensure the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel, personnel of the specialized agencies and all other personnel engaged in humanitarian relief activities as required by international humanitarian law, without prejudice to their freedom of movement and access, stresses the need not to impede or hinder these efforts, recalls that attacks on humanitarian workers may amount to war crimes, and notes in this regard that the Security Council has reaffirmed that it will take further measures in the event of non-compliance with its resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2234 (2015), 2258 (2015), 2286 (2016), 2393 (2017) and 2401 (2018) by any Syrian party;

47. *Urges* the international community to support the leadership and full and effective participation of women in all efforts aimed at finding a political solution to the Syrian crisis, as envisaged by the Security Council in its resolutions 1325 (2000), 2122 (2013) of 18 October 2013 and 2242 (2015) of 13 October 2015;

48. *Reaffirms* that there can only be a political solution to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, reiterates its commitment to the national unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic, and urges the parties to the conflict to abstain from actions that may contribute to the continuing deterioration of the human rights, security and humanitarian situation, in order to reach a genuine political transition, based on the final communiqué of the Action Group for Syria of 30 June 2012,<sup>661</sup> consistent with Security Council resolutions 2254 (2015) and 2268 (2016), that meets the legitimate aspirations of the Syrian people for a civil, democratic and pluralistic State, with the full and effective participation of women, where there is no room for sectarianism or discrimination on ethnic, religious, linguistic, gender or any other grounds, and where all persons receive equal protection, regardless of gender, religion or ethnicity, and further demands that all parties work urgently towards the comprehensive implementation of the final communiqué, including through the establishment of an inclusive transitional governing body with full executive powers, which shall be formed on the basis of mutual consent while ensuring the continuity of governmental institutions.

### RESOLUTION 73/183

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/590, para. 45)<sup>661</sup>

#### **73/183. Enhancing the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reiterating* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

*Recalling* its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016, in which it encouraged coherence of the General Assembly and its Main Committees, the Economic and Social Council, the specialized agencies and the functional commissions of the Council, and other intergovernmental bodies and forums with the work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development towards the follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Recalling also* that Sustainable Development Goal 16, on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, will be reviewed in depth by the high-level political forum in 2019,

*Recalling further* the preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as set out in its resolution 72/192 of 19 December 2017, including the decision that the main theme of the Fourteenth Congress would be “Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda”,

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<sup>661</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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*Underscores* the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as the principal policymaking body of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,

*Bearing in mind* that the implementation of the present resolution would support and be without prejudice to the existing mandates of the Commission,

1. *Underlines* the importance of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in actively contributing to the global follow-up to and supporting the thematic review of progress made in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals relating to its mandate;

2. *Encourages* Member States to raise awareness about the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and its relevance in the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>662</sup>

3. *Recognizes* the integrated and indivisible nature of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the interlinkages between them;

4. *Welcomes* the cooperation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, within its existing mandate, with other functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, and encourages the Commission to further enhance its cooperation with all relevant intergovernmental bodies and forums with a view to advancing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

5. *Encourages* Member States to consider including information on the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 16, also in relation to the work of the Commission, in their voluntary national reviews for consideration by the high-level political forum on sustainable development during its meeting to be held in 2019 and sharing relevant information contained in those voluntary national reviews with the Commission during its twenty-eighth session, including in the context of the general debate;

6. *Invites* Member States and relevant United Nations entities, international and regional organizations, the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network and other relevant stakeholders to provide the Commission, through its secretariat, for consideration during its twenty-eighth session, views on how the Commission can contribute to the review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 16, and requests the Secretariat to also bring that information to the attention of the high-level political forum at its meeting in 2019 and the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, within existing reporting requirements.

### RESOLUTION 73/184

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/590, para. 45)<sup>663</sup>

#### **73/184. Follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001 on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, in which it stipulated the guidelines in accordance with which, beginning in 2005, the congresses, pursuant to paragraphs 29 and 30 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme,<sup>664</sup> should be held,

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<sup>662</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>663</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

<sup>664</sup> Resolution 46/152, annex.

*Emphasizing* the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution [155 C \(VII\)](#) of 13 August 1948 and General Assembly resolution [415 \(V\)](#) of 1 December 1950,

*Acknowledging* that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, as major intergovernmental forums, have influenced national policies and practices and promoted international cooperation in that field by facilitating the exchange of views and experience, mobilizing public opinion and recommending policy options at the national, regional and international levels,

*Emphasizing* the important role played by the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice in recognizing that crime prevention and criminal justice, with due regard to the observance of human rights, make a direct contribution to the maintenance of peace and security,

*Recognizing* the significant contributions of the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice to promoting the exchange of experience in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice among States, intergovernmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

*Recalling* its resolution [57/270 B](#) of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, in which it stressed that all countries should promote policies consistent and coherent with the commitments of the major United Nations conferences and summits, emphasized that the United Nations system had an important responsibility to assist Governments to stay fully engaged in the follow-up to and implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the major United Nations conferences and summits and invited its intergovernmental bodies to further promote the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

*Recalling also* its resolution [62/173](#) of 18 December 2007, in which it endorsed the recommendations made by the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Lessons Learned from United Nations Congresses on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its meeting held in Bangkok from 15 to 18 August 2006,<sup>665</sup>

*Recalling further* its resolution [70/174](#) of 17 December 2015, in which it endorsed the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and welcomed with appreciation the offer of the Government of Japan to act as host to the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in 2020,

*Recalling* its resolution [72/192](#) of 19 December 2017, in which it approved the agenda items and decided upon the main theme and the topics for the workshops of the Fourteenth Congress and also decided that the duration of the Fourteenth Congress should not exceed eight days,

*Recalling also* its resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, in which it adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Recognizing* the importance of the substantive contributions that the Fourteenth Congress can make to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

*Encouraged* by the success of the Thirteenth Congress as one of the largest and most diverse forums for the exchange of views on and experiences in research, law and policy and programme development between States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

*Stressing* the importance of undertaking all preparatory activities for the Fourteenth Congress in a timely and concerted manner,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>666</sup>

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<sup>665</sup> See [E/CN.15/2007/6](#), chap. IV.

<sup>666</sup> [E/CN.15/2018/11](#).



## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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1. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments to take into consideration the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,<sup>667</sup> when formulating legislation and policy directives and to make all efforts, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;
2. *Welcomes* the work undertaken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in following up on the implementation of the Doha Declaration;
3. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made thus far in the preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;
4. *Decides* to hold the Fourteenth Congress in Kyoto, Japan, from 20 to 27 April 2020, with pre-Congress consultations to be held on 19 April 2020;
5. *Also decides* that the high-level segment of the Fourteenth Congress shall be held during the first two days of the Congress in order to allow Heads of State or Government and government ministers to focus on the main theme of the Congress and to enhance the possibility of generating useful feedback;
6. *Further decides* that, in accordance with its resolution 56/119, the Fourteenth Congress shall adopt a single declaration, to be submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice for its consideration;
7. *Takes note with appreciation* of the draft discussion guide prepared by the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, for the regional preparatory meetings and for the Fourteenth Congress;
8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to finalize the discussion guide in a timely manner, taking into account the recommendations of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as well as additional comments and feedback from Member States, in order to enable the regional preparatory meetings for the Fourteenth Congress to be held as early as possible in 2019;
9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to proceed with the organization of the four regional preparatory meetings for the Fourteenth Congress and to make available the necessary resources for the participation of the least developed countries in those meetings and in the Congress itself, in accordance with past practice, as well as making a special effort to organize the regional preparatory meeting for European and other States so as to benefit from their input;
10. *Urges* Governments to actively participate in the regional preparatory meetings, where appropriate, and invite their representatives to examine the substantive items on the agenda and the topics of the workshops of the Fourteenth Congress and to make action-oriented recommendations for consideration by the Congress;
11. *Invites* Governments to undertake preparations for the Fourteenth Congress at an early stage by all appropriate means, including, where appropriate, the establishment of national preparatory committees;
12. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to be represented at the Fourteenth Congress at the highest possible level, for example, by Heads of State or Government, government ministers or attorneys general, and to make statements on the theme and topics of the Congress;
13. *Also reiterates its invitation* to Member States to play an active role in the Fourteenth Congress by sending legal and policy experts, including practitioners with special training and practical experience in crime prevention and criminal justice;
14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to encourage the participation of representatives from relevant entities of the United Nations system in the Fourteenth Congress, bearing in mind the main theme, agenda items and workshop topics of the Congress;

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<sup>667</sup> Resolution 70/174, annex.

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to facilitate the participation of developing countries in the workshops, and encourages States, the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, other concerned entities and the Secretary-General to work together in order to ensure that the workshops are well focused and achieve practical results, leading to technical cooperation ideas and projects and documents for enhancing bilateral and multilateral technical assistance activities in crime prevention and criminal justice;

16. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of ancillary meetings of non-governmental and professional organizations participating in the Fourteenth Congress, in accordance with past practice, as well as meetings of professional and geographical interest groups, and to take appropriate measures to encourage the participation of the academic and research community in the Congress, and encourages Member States to actively participate in the above-mentioned meetings, as they provide an opportunity to develop and maintain a strong partnership with the private sector and civil society organizations;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a plan for the documentation for the Fourteenth Congress, in consultation with the extended Bureau of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

18. *Again encourages* the relevant specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as other professional organizations, to cooperate with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the preparations for the Fourteenth Congress;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to appoint a Secretary-General and an Executive Secretary of the Fourteenth Congress, in accordance with past practice, to perform their functions under the rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice;

20. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the necessary resources, from within the overall appropriations of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 and the programme budget for 2020, to support the preparations for and holding of the Fourteenth Congress;

21. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, in collaboration with Member States, a wide and effective programme of public information relating to the preparations for the Fourteenth Congress, to the Congress itself and to the follow-up to and implementation of its recommendations;

22. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to accord sufficient time at its twenty-eighth session to reviewing the progress made in the preparations for the Fourteenth Congress, to finalize in a timely manner all outstanding organizational and substantive arrangements and to make its recommendations to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure proper follow-up to the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-eighth session.

### RESOLUTION 73/185

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/590, para. 45)<sup>668</sup>

#### **73/185. The rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming its commitment* to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which are the indispensable foundation of a more peaceful, prosperous and just world, and reiterating its determination to foster strict respect for them and to establish a just and lasting peace all over the world,

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<sup>668</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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*Taking note* of the relevant provisions of the declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels,<sup>669</sup> including that human rights, the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations,

*Mindful* of its resolution 72/119 of 7 December 2017, entitled “The rule of law at the national and international levels”, as well as all its previous resolutions on that topic,

*Mindful also* of its resolution 72/196 of 19 December 2017, entitled “Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity”, as well as all its previous resolutions on that topic,

*Mindful further* of Economic and Social Council resolutions 2004/25 of 21 July 2004, 2005/21 of 22 July 2005 and 2006/25 of 27 July 2006 on strengthening the rule of law and the reform of criminal justice institutions, as well as the technical assistance activities of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme in that area, including in post-conflict reconstruction,

*Recalling* its resolutions 67/186 of 20 December 2012, entitled “Strengthening the rule of law and the reform of criminal justice institutions, particularly in the areas related to the United Nations system-wide approach to fighting transnational organized crime and drug trafficking”, and 68/188 of 18 December 2013, entitled “The rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015”,

*Aware* of the importance of its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, which includes the commitment to promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and in this respect recalling its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda at the global level,

*Expressing its grave concern* about the negative effects of all manifestations of transnational organized crime on development, peace, stability and security and human rights,

*Convinced* that the rule of law and development are strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing and that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels, including through crime prevention and criminal justice mechanisms, is essential for sustained and inclusive economic growth and sustainable development and the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Expressing appreciation* for the ongoing efforts of Member States to promote the rule of law and strengthen crime prevention and criminal justice, including by integrating development programmes into their initiatives in this regard,

*Convinced* that the promotion of and respect for the rule of law at the national and international levels, as well as justice and good governance, should guide the activities of the United Nations and its Member States,

*Emphasizing* its commitment and strong political will in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems and the institutions comprising them, encouraging the effective participation and inclusion of all sectors of society, thus creating the conditions needed to advance the wider United Nations agenda, and recognizing the responsibility of Member States to uphold human dignity, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, in particular those affected by crime and those who may be in contact with the criminal justice system, including vulnerable members of society, regardless of their status, who may be subject to multiple and aggravated forms of discrimination, and to prevent and counter crime motivated by intolerance or discrimination of any kind,

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<sup>669</sup> Resolution 67/1.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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*Encouraging* Member States to consider using and applying the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice to strengthen fair and effective criminal justice systems, bearing in mind the importance of the rule of law and its relevance for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Stressing* the significance of a well-functioning, efficient, fair, effective and humane criminal justice system as the basis for a successful strategy against transnational organized crime, corruption, terrorism, illicit drug production, manufacturing and trafficking, trafficking in persons and other dangerous forms of trafficking,

*Recognizing* the importance of the rule of law to all areas of engagement within the United Nations system, and noting with appreciation the progress made in ensuring coherence and coordination of activities to support the rule of law, in cooperation with the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, while recognizing the different mandates of different United Nations entities,

*Bearing in mind* that the activities of the United Nations carried out in support of efforts by Governments to promote and consolidate the rule of law are undertaken in accordance with the Charter, and stressing the need to strengthen support to Member States, upon their request, in the domestic implementation of their respective international obligations through enhanced technical assistance and capacity-building,

*Emphasizing* the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation,<sup>670</sup> in which Member States recognized the importance of effective, fair, humane and accountable crime prevention and criminal justice systems and the institutions comprising them as a central component of the rule of law,

*Encouraging* Member States to develop and implement, as appropriate, comprehensive crime prevention policies and national and local strategies and action plans based on an understanding of the multiple factors that contribute to crime and to address such factors in a holistic manner, in close cooperation with all stakeholders, including civil society, and in this respect stressing that social development and the promotion of the rule of law, including the fostering of a culture of lawfulness while respecting cultural identities, in accordance with the Doha Declaration, should be integral elements of strategies to foster crime prevention and economic development in all States,

*Aware* that the high-level political forum on sustainable development, at its meeting in 2019, which will have as its theme “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”, will review, inter alia, the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 16,

*Recalling* Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 26/3 of 26 May 2017, entitled “Mainstreaming a gender perspective into crime prevention and criminal justice policies and programmes and into efforts to prevent and combat transnational organized crime”,<sup>671</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of its resolution 70/1, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, which includes the commitment to promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels;

2. *Urges* Member States to continue to recognize the cross-cutting nature of the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice and development, and recommends that such linkages and interrelationships be properly addressed and further elaborated, while reiterating the commitments made with regard to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular in connection with the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 16;

3. *Renews its call upon* relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue cooperating and coordinating their activities, within their respective mandates, to promote a more integrated approach to the

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<sup>670</sup> Resolution 70/174, annex.

<sup>671</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 10 (E/2017/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.

provision of assistance for building capacity in the area of the rule of law and criminal justice reform and to further explore joint projects in that area;

4. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments to take into consideration the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,<sup>670</sup> when formulating legislation and policy directives and to make every effort, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

5. *Emphasizes* the commitment expressed in the Doha Declaration to holistic and comprehensive approaches to countering crime, violence, corruption and terrorism in all their forms and manifestations, and to ensuring that those responses are implemented in a coordinated and coherent way, along with broader programmes or measures for social and economic development, poverty eradication, respect for cultural diversity, social peace and social inclusion;

6. *Urges* Member States to mainstream crime prevention strategies with a gender perspective that are aimed at children and youth into all relevant social and economic policies and programmes, including those addressing education, health, civic participation, socioeconomic opportunities, information and communications technology and public safety and security, in order to protect children and youth from social marginalization and exclusion and to reduce their risk of becoming victims or offenders, and to this end to strive to achieve all relevant Sustainable Development Goals, including Goals 3 to 5, 8 to 11, 16 and 17;

7. *Also urges* Member States to adopt integrated and comprehensive responses to violence against women in order to reduce risks of gender-related killing through early intervention and risk assessment, exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish gender-related killing of women and girls, ensure equal protection of women under the law and equal access to justice, consider adopting an integrated, multidisciplinary and gender-sensitive approach to the prevention, investigation, prosecution and punishment of gender-related killing of women and girls to minimize the risk of secondary victimization in the criminal justice system, develop appropriate mechanisms and enhance capacities for forensic investigations to identify human remains and missing persons and, to these ends, strive to achieve all relevant Sustainable Development Goals, including Goals 5 and 16;

8. *Invites* Member States to promote educational programmes related to crime prevention and criminal justice, in particular for young people, that foster an understanding of justice and the rule of law, which is an approach to be taken by Governments towards the general public to promote trust and respect for the law and its enforcement, and, to these ends, to strive to achieve all relevant Sustainable Development Goals, including Goals 4 and 16;

9. *Also invites* Member States to intensify, in line with their domestic legal frameworks, national and international efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination, including racism, religious intolerance, xenophobia and gender-related discrimination by, inter alia, raising awareness, developing educational materials and programmes and considering, where appropriate, drafting and enforcing legislation against discrimination and, to these ends, to strive to achieve all relevant Sustainable Development Goals, including Goals 4, 5, 8, 10 and 16;

10. *Encourages* Member States, with the active participation of the private sector, to promote crime prevention and social inclusion programmes and employability schemes for vulnerable members of society, including victims and those released from prison, and, to these ends, to strive to achieve all relevant Sustainable Development Goals, including Goals 1 to 5, 8, 10, 11 and 16;

11. *Also encourages* Member States to adopt effective measures to prevent and counter the serious problem of crimes that have an impact on the environment, such as trafficking in wildlife, including fauna and flora as protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,<sup>672</sup> and poaching, as well as illicit trafficking in forest products, including timber, and, to these ends, to strive to achieve all relevant Sustainable Development Goals, including Goals 13 to 16;

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<sup>672</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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12. *Acknowledges* the ongoing work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, in the area of education for justice, including under the Education for Justice initiative, which is a key component of the Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration, and requests the Office to continue its efforts to promote education on the rule of law and justice in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant stakeholders;

13. *Notes* that the main theme of the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in Kyoto, Japan, in 2020, will be “Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda”, and looks forward to fruitful discussions at the regional preparatory meetings and at the Congress on that subject;

14. *Invites* Member States participating in the regional preparatory meetings for the Fourteenth Congress to make specific proposals and recommendations in line with its theme, related to the advancement of the rule of law, for consideration by the Congress;

15. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist Member States in improving systems for collecting and analysing data on crime prevention and criminal justice at all levels, where necessary, including gender-specific data, in order to promote the rule of law and achieve sustainable development, and notes the application of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes;

16. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen the rule of law, taking into account the work undertaken by other United Nations entities, within existing mandates, as well as regional and bilateral efforts, and to continue to ensure coordination and coherence, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with adequate resources to support, in an effective manner, its efforts towards the implementation of its mandates and, as appropriate, the global follow-up and thematic review relating to its existing mandates, which are essential for strengthening the maintenance of the rule of law at the national and international levels, including by providing special support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to enable it to actively contribute, as appropriate, to the global follow-up to and thematic review of progress made by Member States in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals as set forth in General Assembly resolution [70/299](#);

18. *Encourages* Member States to take relevant measures, as appropriate to their national contexts, to promote the diffusion, use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including the consideration and, where they deem it necessary, dissemination of existing manuals, handbooks and capacity-building material developed and published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

19. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Secretary-General towards stronger coordination and integration of rule of law assistance, through specialized and relevant international organizations, in order to enhance predictability, coherence, accountability and effectiveness in the delivery of rule of law assistance at the national and international levels, and encourages further participation by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in such arrangements, in particular with regard to police, justice and corrections;

20. *Invites* the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network to continue to include in their work programme the issue of the rule of law and the provision of assistance to States, at their request, in responding to the challenges posed to the rule of law and development, as well as to strengthen their efforts to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

21. *Calls upon* Member States, international organizations and all relevant stakeholders to provide to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime their views on advancing crime prevention and criminal justice, in the context of Sustainable Development Goal 16, as well as their views on the contribution that the Fourteenth Congress, considering its main theme, could make to the furtherance of these issues, and requests the Office to report to the Congress on that matter;

22. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes set out in the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.



## RESOLUTION 73/186

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/590, para. 45)<sup>673</sup>

### **73/186. Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its resolutions 46/152 of 18 December 1991, 60/1 of 16 September 2005, 67/1 of 19 September 2012, 69/193 and 69/196 of 18 December 2014, 70/178 and 70/182 of 17 December 2015, 71/209 of 19 December 2016 and 72/196 of 19 December 2017,

*Reaffirming also* its resolutions relating to the urgent need to strengthen international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting and facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,<sup>674</sup> the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,<sup>675</sup> the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,<sup>676</sup> the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,<sup>677</sup> the United Nations Convention against Corruption<sup>678</sup> and all the international conventions and protocols against terrorism,

*Recalling* the importance of the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,<sup>679</sup>

*Welcoming* Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/16 of 2 July 2018 on the follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and recalling that the theme of the Fourteenth Congress, to be held in Kyoto, Japan, from 20 to 27 April 2020, will be “Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda”,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 73/183 of 17 December 2018 on enhancing the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in which Member States were encouraged to raise awareness about the work of the Commission in the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

*Reaffirming also* its resolution 73/185 of 17 December 2018 on the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Expressing its grave concern* about the negative effects of transnational organized crime on development, peace, stability and security and human rights, about the increasing vulnerability of States to such crime and about the growing degree of penetration of criminal organizations and their financial and economic resources into the economy,

<sup>673</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

<sup>674</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

<sup>675</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

<sup>676</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

<sup>677</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

<sup>678</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

<sup>679</sup> Resolution 70/174, annex.

*Expressing concern* at the involvement of organized criminal groups, as well as the substantial increase in the volume, rate of transnational occurrence and range of criminal offences related to trafficking in precious metals, stones and other minerals in some parts of the world, and the potential use of trafficking in precious metals, stones and other minerals as a source of funding for organized crime, other relevant criminal activities and terrorism,

*Deeply concerned* about the growing links, in some cases, between forms of transnational organized crime and terrorism, recognizing that countering transnational organized crime and terrorism is a common and shared responsibility, and in this respect reaffirming its resolution 72/194 of 19 December 2017 on technical assistance for implementing the international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism,

*Convinced* that the rule of law and development are strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing and that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels, including through crime prevention and criminal justice mechanisms, is essential for sustained and inclusive economic growth and sustainable development and the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, and in this respect welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>680</sup> which, inter alia, includes the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and in this respect recalling its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda at the global level,

*Emphasizing* that transnational organized crime must be addressed with full respect for the principle of the sovereignty of States and in accordance with the rule of law as part of a comprehensive response to promote durable solutions through the promotion of human rights and more equitable socioeconomic conditions,

*Encouraging* Member States to develop and implement, as appropriate, comprehensive crime prevention policies, national and local strategies and action plans based on an understanding of the multiple factors that contribute to crime and to address such factors in a holistic manner, in close cooperation with all stakeholders, including civil society, and in this respect stressing that social development and the promotion of the rule of law, including the fostering of a culture of lawfulness while respecting cultural identities, in accordance with the Doha Declaration, should be integral elements of strategies to foster crime prevention and economic development in all States,

*Reaffirming its commitment and strong political will* in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems and the institutions comprising them, encouraging the effective participation and inclusion of all sectors of society, thus creating the conditions needed to advance the wider United Nations agenda, and recognizing the responsibility of Member States to uphold human dignity, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, in particular for those affected by crime and those who may be in contact with the criminal justice system, including vulnerable members of society, regardless of their status, who may be subject to multiple and aggravated forms of discrimination, and to prevent and counter crime motivated by intolerance or discrimination of any kind,

*Taking note* of Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 25/2 of 27 May 2016 on promoting legal aid, including through a network of legal aid providers,<sup>681</sup> in which the Commission encouraged Member States to adopt or strengthen legislative or other measures to ensure that effective legal aid, including for victims of crime, is provided consistent with their domestic legislation and in line with the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems,<sup>682</sup> and which also contributes to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Welcoming* the efforts made by some Member States to establish a common documentation standard as a tool for facilitating both technical interoperability and accessibility of legal documentation,

*Deeply concerned* about the negative impact of corruption on development and on the enjoyment of human rights, and recognizing the universal importance of good governance, transparency, integrity and accountability, thus calling for a zero-tolerance approach to corruption and more effective measures to prevent and counter corruption in all its forms, including bribery, as well as measures to prevent the laundering of proceeds of corruption and other forms of crime,

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<sup>680</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>681</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2016, Supplement No. 10 (E/2016/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.

<sup>682</sup> Resolution 67/187, annex.

*Welcoming* resolution 7/2 of 10 November 2017 on preventing and combating corruption in all its forms more effectively, including, among others, when it involves vast quantities of assets, based on a comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption, adopted at the seventh session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, held in Vienna from 6 to 10 November 2017,<sup>683</sup>

*Welcoming also* the progress made with regard to the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and stressing the importance of effective implementation of the Convention in all its aspects by all States parties,

*Bearing in mind* that, pursuant to chapter V of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the return of assets is one of the main objectives, an integral part and a fundamental principle of the Convention and that the States parties to the Convention shall afford one another the widest measure of cooperation and assistance in that regard,

*Recognizing* that, thanks to their nearly universal adherence and wide scope of application, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime<sup>684</sup> and the United Nations Convention against Corruption offer fundamental legal bases for international cooperation to support the investigation and prosecution of crimes covered by those Conventions, including for extradition, mutual legal assistance and confiscation and asset recovery, and that they provide effective mechanisms that should be further implemented and utilized in practice,

*Welcoming*, in this respect, the high-level debate held on 23 May 2018 to mark the fifteenth anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and to highlight emerging trends and promote the effective implementation of the Convention, and taking note of the summary of the discussion prepared by the President of the General Assembly and transmitted to the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention and to all Member States,

*Recognizing* the efforts of the Group of 20 in countering corruption at both the global and the national levels, taking note with appreciation of the anti-corruption initiatives outlined in the communiqué of the Summit of the Group of 20, held in Hamburg, Germany, on 7 and 8 July 2017, and urging the Group of 20 to continue to engage other States Members of the United Nations and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in its work in an inclusive and transparent manner to ensure that initiatives of the Group of 20 complement or strengthen the work being undertaken by the United Nations system,

*Stressing* the importance of strengthened international cooperation, based on the principles of shared responsibility and in accordance with international law, to effectively address the world drug problem, dismantle illicit networks and counter transnational organized crime, including money-laundering, illicit financial flows, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, trafficking in arms and other forms of organized crime, all of which threaten national security and undermine sustainable development and the rule of law, and stressing also in this respect the importance of law enforcement cooperation and exchange of information, as well as of designated central authorities and effective points of contact dedicated to facilitating the procedures related to international cooperation, including for extradition and mutual legal assistance requests, as well as the importance of the coordinating role of relevant regional networks,

*Noting* the important contribution that public-private sector cooperation can make in efforts to prevent and combat criminal activities, such as transnational organized crime, corruption, cybercrime and terrorism, in particular in the tourism sector,

*Reaffirming* the commitments made by Member States in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted on 8 September 2006,<sup>685</sup> and its successive biennial reviews, in particular in its resolution 72/284 of 26 June 2018, in which it encouraged Member States and United Nations entities to strengthen and better coordinate their actions against terrorism and to prevent and combat violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, including through technical assistance provided to Member States upon their request, and highlighting in this respect the work of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, established through its resolution 71/291 of 15 June 2017 on strengthening the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,

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<sup>683</sup> See [CAC/COSP/2017/14](#), sect. I.A.

<sup>684</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

<sup>685</sup> Resolution [60/288](#).

*Highlighting* the importance of its resolutions on measures to eliminate international terrorism and on the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism adopted at its seventy-third session,

*Bearing in mind* its resolution [73/190](#) of 17 December 2018 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

*Recalling* its resolution [66/177](#) of 19 December 2011 on strengthening international cooperation in combating the harmful effects of illicit financial flows resulting from criminal activities, in which it urged States parties to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption to apply fully the provisions of those Conventions, in particular measures to prevent and combat money-laundering, including by criminalizing the laundering of proceeds of transnational organized crime, as well as measures to enhance national confiscation regimes and international cooperation, including in asset recovery, and recalling also its resolution [72/207](#) of 20 December 2017, in which, inter alia, it reiterated its deep concern about the impact of illicit financial flows, in particular those caused by tax evasion, corruption and transnational organized crime, on the economic, social and political stability and development of societies, and especially on developing countries,

*Expressing concern* that terrorists may benefit from transnational organized crime in some regions, including from trafficking in arms, persons, human organs, drugs and cultural property and from the illicit trade in natural resources, including oil, and in oil products, modular refineries and related material, precious metals, stones and other minerals, charcoal and wildlife, as well as from kidnapping for ransom and other crimes, including extortion, money-laundering and bank robbery, and condemning the destruction of cultural heritage perpetrated by terrorist groups in some countries,

*Taking into consideration* all resolutions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council, in particular those relating to the strengthening of international cooperation, as well as the technical assistance and advisory services of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fields of crime prevention and criminal justice, promotion and reinforcement of the rule of law and reform of criminal justice institutions, including with regard to the implementation of technical assistance,

*Noting* the establishment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations system task force on transnational organized crime and drug trafficking for the purpose of developing an effective and comprehensive approach to those crimes within the United Nations system, and reaffirming the crucial role of Member States in this regard, as reflected in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recognizing* the progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the delivery of advisory services and technical assistance to requesting Member States in the areas of crime prevention and criminal justice reform, data and information analysis, preventing and countering organized crime, corruption, piracy and transnational organized crime committed at sea, illicit financial flows, money-laundering, economic and financial crimes, including fraud, as well as tax and corporate crimes, cybercrime, criminal misuse of the Internet and other information and communications technologies as well as such misuse for terrorist purposes, crimes that affect the environment, illicit trafficking in endangered species of wild fauna and flora, trafficking in precious metals, stones and other minerals, direct and indirect trade in oil and refined oil products with organized criminal and terrorist groups, counterfeiting in trademark goods, match-fixing, trafficking in cultural property and artefacts, kidnapping, smuggling of migrants, organ trafficking, trafficking in persons, including the support and protection, as appropriate, of victims, their families and witnesses, illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, drug trafficking and terrorism, including progress in tackling the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters, as well as in the area of international cooperation, with special emphasis on extradition and mutual legal assistance and the international transfer of sentenced persons,

*Welcoming* the adoption by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of a regional approach to programming, based on continuing consultations and partnerships at the national and regional levels, particularly on its implementation, and focused on ensuring that the Office responds in a sustainable and coherent manner to the priorities of Member States,

*Reiterating its concern* regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and welcoming the extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office,

*Welcoming* Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 26/3 of 26 May 2017 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into crime prevention and criminal justice policies and programmes and into efforts to prevent and combat transnational organized crime,<sup>686</sup>

*Reaffirming* its resolution 71/170 of 19 December 2016, entitled “Intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: domestic violence”, recalling the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council addressing various aspects of violence against women and girls of all ages, and recalling also the agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-eighth session, which addressed the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls,<sup>687</sup>

*Reiterating its condemnation* of all forms of violence against women and girls, expressing deep concern about gender-related killing of women and girls, recalling all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 68/191 of 18 December 2013 and 70/176 of 17 December 2015 on taking action against gender-related killing of women and girls, and recognizing the key role of law enforcement and the criminal justice system in preventing and responding to gender-related killing of women and girls, including by ending impunity for such crimes,

*Noting* the significance of the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice<sup>688</sup> as a way to assist countries in strengthening their national crime prevention and criminal justice capacities to respond to all forms of violence against women and girls,

*Recalling* its resolution 69/194 of 18 December 2014, by which it adopted the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, convinced of the importance of preventing youth crime, including through sports, supporting the rehabilitation of young offenders and their reintegration into society, protecting in particular child victims of all forms of violence, including those in contact with the law and witnesses, including efforts to prevent their revictimization, and addressing the needs of children of prisoners, stressing that such responses should take into account the human rights and best interests of children and young people, consistent with the obligations of the States parties under relevant international instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>689</sup> and the Optional Protocols thereto,<sup>690</sup> and noting other relevant United Nations standards and norms in juvenile justice, where appropriate,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the partnership between the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in promoting the importance of education as an effective tool for the prevention of crime and terrorism, under the Education for Justice initiative,

*Emphasizing* the relevance of international instruments and United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice related to the treatment of prisoners, in particular women and juveniles,

*Recalling* its resolution 70/146 of 17 December 2015, in which it reaffirmed that no one shall be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

*Stressing* the importance of the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials<sup>691</sup> and the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials,<sup>692</sup> which are voluntary guidelines that emphasize, inter alia, efficient and human rights-based policing,

*Recalling* its resolution 65/229 of 21 December 2010 on the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules), and in this regard encouraging the efforts of Member States to implement the Bangkok Rules,

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<sup>686</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 10 (E/2017/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.

<sup>687</sup> *Ibid.*, 2014, *Supplement No. 7 (E/2014/27)*, chap. I, sect. A.

<sup>688</sup> Resolution 69/194, annex.

<sup>689</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>690</sup> *Ibid.*, vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex.

<sup>691</sup> Resolution 34/169, annex.

<sup>692</sup> See *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August–7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. B.



*Welcoming* the adoption, by its resolution [70/175](#) of 17 December 2015, of the revision to the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules), and reaffirming its resolution [72/193](#) of 19 December 2017, in which, inter alia, Member States were encouraged to endeavour to improve conditions of imprisonment and to promote the practical application of the Nelson Mandela Rules as the universally acknowledged and updated minimum standards for the treatment of prisoners, to use the Rules as a guide in the development of prison laws, policies and practices, to continue exchanging good practices and identifying challenges faced in the practical application of the Rules and to share their experiences in dealing with those challenges,

*Welcoming also* Economic and Social Council resolution [2017/19](#) of 6 July 2017 on promoting and encouraging the implementation of alternatives to imprisonment as part of comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice policies,

*Reiterating its strong condemnation* of trafficking in persons, which constitutes a serious crime and a grave offence to human dignity and physical integrity, a violation and abuse of human rights and a challenge to sustainable development and requires the implementation of a comprehensive approach that includes measures to prevent such trafficking, to punish the traffickers and to identify and protect the victims of such trafficking, and a robust criminal justice response, and recalling in this respect the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>693</sup> and its resolutions [70/179](#) of 17 December 2015, [71/167](#) of 19 December 2016 and [72/195](#) of 19 December 2017,

*Bearing in mind* its resolution [73/189](#) of 17 December 2018 on strengthening and promoting effective measures and international cooperation on organ donation and transplantation to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs,

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

*Underlining* that Member States need to recognize that the crime of smuggling of migrants and the crime of trafficking in persons are distinct crimes and require separate and complementary legal, operational and policy responses, and recalling its resolutions [69/187](#) of 18 December 2014 and [70/147](#) of 17 December 2015, in which it called upon all Member States to protect and assist migrants, including migrant children and adolescents, and Economic and Social Council resolutions [2014/23](#) of 16 July 2014 and [2015/23](#) of 21 July 2015,

*Reaffirming* its resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, in which it, inter alia, committed to taking immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour,

*Recalling* its resolution [71/1](#) of 19 September 2016, by which it adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, which addresses the issue of large movements of refugees and migrants,

*Welcoming* the work of the United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, established in accordance with the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, adopted by its resolution [64/293](#) of 30 July 2010, as well as the important contribution of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,

*Concerned* at the growing involvement of terrorist and organized criminal groups in all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, and alarmed by the destruction of cultural heritage perpetrated recently by terrorist groups, which is linked to trafficking in cultural property in some countries and to financing of terrorist activities,

*Recognizing* the indispensable role of crime prevention and criminal justice responses in combating all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences in a comprehensive and effective manner, and underlining the importance of the practical assistance tool aimed at supporting the implementation of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and

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<sup>693</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.



Other Related Offences<sup>694</sup> through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in this respect welcoming Commission resolution 27/5 of 18 May 2018,<sup>695</sup> and the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 68/186 of 18 December 2013, 69/196, and 70/76 of 9 December 2015, and facilitating operational cooperation against all forms of trafficking in cultural property, and the request to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide practical assistance in the implementation of the Guidelines and to facilitate cooperation in this area, including in countering the financing of terrorism in accordance with resolution 70/177 of 17 December 2015,

*Affirming* that the destruction of cultural heritage, which is representative of the diversity of human culture, erases the collective memories of a nation, destabilizes communities and threatens their cultural identity, and emphasizing the importance of cultural diversity and pluralism as well as freedom of religion and belief for achieving peace, stability, reconciliation and social cohesion, and recalling in this respect its resolution 70/76,

*Reaffirming* the intrinsic value of biological diversity and its various contributions to sustainable development and human well-being, and recognizing that wild fauna and flora in their many beautiful and varied forms are an irreplaceable part of the natural systems of the Earth which must be protected for this generation and the generations to come,

*Emphasizing* that the protection of wildlife must be part of a comprehensive approach to achieving poverty eradication, food security, sustainable development, including the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, economic growth, social well-being and sustainable livelihoods,

*Expressing deep concern* about crimes that affect the environment, including illicit trafficking in endangered and, where applicable, protected species of wild fauna and flora, and in hazardous waste, and emphasizing the need to combat such crimes by strengthening coordinated action to eliminate, prevent and combat corruption and disrupt illicit networks and also by coordinating international cooperation, capacity-building, criminal justice responses and law enforcement efforts,

*Recognizing*, in this respect, the legal framework provided by and the important role of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora<sup>696</sup> as the primary mechanism for regulating international trade in species of wild fauna and flora listed in its appendices,

*Recalling* the adoption of its resolutions 69/314 of 30 July 2015, 70/301 of 9 September 2016 and 71/326 of 11 September 2017 on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife,

*Concerned* at the growing trend of cybercrime and the misuse of information and communications technologies in multiple forms of crime,

*Welcoming*, in this respect, Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 26/4 of 26 May 2017 on strengthening international cooperation to combat cybercrime,<sup>696</sup> in which the open-ended intergovernmental Expert Group to Conduct a Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime was requested to continue its work and exchange of information on national legislation, best practices, technical assistance and international cooperation with a view to examining options to strengthen existing responses and propose new national and international legal or other responses to cybercrime, and was encouraged to develop possible conclusions and recommendations for submission to the Commission,

*Concerned* at the serious challenges and threats posed by illicit trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and about its links with other forms of transnational organized crime, including drug trafficking, as well as terrorism,

*Noting* international efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in conventional arms, in particular in small arms and light weapons, as demonstrated by the adoption in 2001 of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,<sup>697</sup> the entry into force in 2005 of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and

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<sup>694</sup> Resolution 69/196, annex.

<sup>695</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2018, Supplement No. 10 (E/2018/30)*, chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>696</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

<sup>697</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001 (A/CONF.192/15)*, chap. IV, para. 24.

Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>698</sup> and the entry into force in 2014 of the Arms Trade Treaty,<sup>699</sup>

*Reaffirming* its resolution 71/211 of 19 December 2016 on international cooperation to address and counter the world drug problem, and reaffirming also the outcome document, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem,” adopted at the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, held at United Nations Headquarters from 19 to 21 April 2016,<sup>700</sup> and the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session,<sup>701</sup> and the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,<sup>702</sup>

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to resolutions 71/208 of 19 December 2016, 72/1 and 72/196;<sup>703</sup>

2. *Reaffirms* its resolution 70/1, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, which, inter alia, includes the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States, when appropriate, to take into consideration the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted at the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Doha from 12 to 19 April 2015,<sup>679</sup> when formulating legislation and policy directives, and to make every effort, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, to Member States, including through its Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration;

4. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,<sup>674</sup> the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,<sup>675</sup> the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,<sup>676</sup> the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,<sup>677</sup> the United Nations Convention against Corruption<sup>678</sup> and the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, and urges States parties to those conventions and protocols to make efforts towards their effective implementation;

5. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto represent the most important tools of the international community for fighting transnational organized crime, and notes with appreciation that the number of States parties has reached 189, which is a significant indication of the commitment shown by the international community to combating transnational organized crime;

6. *Welcomes* the adoption of resolution 9/1 of 19 October 2018, entitled “Establishment of the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto”, at the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, held in Vienna from 15 to 19 October 2018,<sup>704</sup> and urges States parties to implement and support the Mechanism;

7. *Also welcomes* the decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its eighth session, held in Vienna from 17 to 21 October 2016, to promote greater use of the Convention by central authorities in extradition and mutual legal assistance and to enhance the effectiveness of these authorities and to strengthen, as appropriate, the implementation

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<sup>698</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2326, No. 39574.

<sup>699</sup> See resolution 67/234 B.

<sup>700</sup> Resolution S-30/1, annex.

<sup>701</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>702</sup> *Ibid.*, 2014, *Supplement No. 8 (E/2014/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>703</sup> A/73/131.

<sup>704</sup> See CTOC/COP/2018/13, sect. I.A.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>698</sup>

8. *Urges* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to continue to provide full support to the review mechanism adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, notes the progress made under the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention, and further notes with appreciation that the number of States parties has reached 186, which is a significant indication of the commitment shown by the international community to combating corruption and related crimes;

9. *Also urges* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to increase their efforts and to take measures to prevent and counter corruption, with the necessary focus on, among others, acts of corruption that involve vast quantities of assets, without undermining their commitment to preventing and countering corruption at all levels and in all forms, and calls upon States parties to the Convention to take measures to ensure that legal and natural persons are held accountable for corruption offences, including when they involve vast quantities of assets, in accordance with the Convention;

10. *Welcomes* the progress achieved by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in the implementation of their respective mandates, and calls upon States parties to give full effect to the resolutions adopted by those bodies, including providing information regarding compliance with the treaties;

11. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and with the involvement of relevant stakeholders, to hold, within existing resources and during the seventy-third session, a high-level debate on the role of regional organizations in strengthening and implementing crime prevention initiatives and criminal justice responses, and to prepare a President's summary of the discussion for transmission to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and to all Member States;

12. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen the capacity of their respective criminal justice systems to investigate, prosecute and punish all forms of crime, while supporting an effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice system and protecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of defendants, as well as the legitimate interests of victims and witnesses, and to adopt and reinforce measures to ensure access to effective legal aid in criminal justice systems, and in this context takes note of the establishment of the Global Judicial Integrity Network in April 2018;

13. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, including, inter alia, in the field of international cooperation in criminal matters, to strengthen the rule of law, also taking into account the work undertaken by other United Nations entities, within existing mandates, as well as regional and bilateral efforts, and to continue to ensure coordination and coherence, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group;

14. *Calls for* greater coordination and coherence among United Nations entities and with stakeholders, including donors, host countries and recipients of capacity-building, in countering transnational organized crime;

15. *Reiterates* the importance of providing the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme with sufficient, stable and predictable funding for the full implementation of its mandates;

16. *Encourages* all States to have national and local action plans for crime prevention in order to take into account, in a comprehensive, integrated and participatory manner, inter alia, factors that place certain populations and places at higher risk of victimization and/or of offending, and to ensure that such plans are based on the best available evidence and good practices, and stresses that crime prevention should be considered an integral element of strategies to foster social and economic development in all States, in accordance with the commitments contained in General Assembly resolutions [70/1](#) and [70/299](#);

17. *Recommends* that Member States adopt multisectoral crime prevention policies and programmes for youth, taking into consideration their varying needs, and safeguard their well-being, recognizing that youth may face specific challenges and risk factors that make them particularly vulnerable to crime, all forms of violence, terrorism and victimization;

18. *Urges* Member States, in cooperation with the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, to develop national, subregional, regional and international strategies, with the support of relevant international organizations, as appropriate, and other necessary measures, including the establishment, in accordance

with domestic legislation, of designated central and competent authorities and effective points of contact dedicated to facilitating the procedures related to international cooperation, including for extradition and mutual legal assistance requests, in order to effectively address transnational organized crime; to strengthen all forms of cooperation to enable the return of illicitly acquired assets in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Corruption for asset recovery, in particular chapter V, with the cooperation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate; and to inform accordingly the Office about existing or updated contact details of such authorities and points of contact to facilitate international cooperation as appropriate;

19. *Encourages* Member States to study the implementation of a common documentation standard, including within the United Nations system and in cooperation with relevant international institutions;

20. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fulfilment of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including providing to Member States, upon request and as a matter of high priority, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance, and coordinating with and complementing the work of all relevant and competent United Nations bodies and offices in respect of all forms of organized crime, including piracy and transnational organized crime committed at sea, cybercrime, criminal misuse of the Internet and other information and communications technologies as well as such misuse for terrorist purposes, the use of new information technologies to abuse and exploit children, trafficking in cultural property and artefacts, illicit financial flows, money-laundering, economic and financial crimes, including fraud, as well as tax and corporate crimes, match-fixing, trafficking in precious metals, stones and other minerals, counterfeiting in trademark goods, crimes that affect the environment, illicit trafficking in endangered species of wild fauna and flora, drug trafficking, kidnapping, trafficking in persons, including the support and protection, as appropriate, of victims, their families and witnesses, organ trafficking, smuggling of migrants and illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, direct and indirect trade in oil and refined oil products with organized criminal and terrorist groups, as well as corruption and terrorism;

21. *Encourages* Member States to collect relevant information and to further identify, analyse and counter any existing, growing or potential links, in some cases, between transnational organized crime, illicit drug-related activities, money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, in order to enhance criminal justice responses to those crimes, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its relevant mandates, to support, upon request, the efforts of Member States in that regard;

22. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen cooperation at the international, regional, subregional and bilateral levels to counter the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters, including through enhanced operational and timely information-sharing, logistical support, as appropriate, and capacity-building activities, such as those provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to share and adopt best practices to identify foreign terrorist fighters, to prevent the travel of foreign terrorist fighters from, into or through Member States, to prevent the financing, mobilization, recruitment and organization of foreign terrorist fighters, to prevent and counter violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, to enhance efforts to implement prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration strategies, taking into account gender and age dimensions, and to ensure that any person who participates in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts or in the supporting of terrorist acts is brought to justice, in compliance with obligations under international law, as well as applicable domestic law, and requests the Office to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, in this regard in cooperation and coordination with the Office of Counter-Terrorism;

23. *Calls upon* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to further enhance technical assistance, upon request, for building the capacity of Member States to become party to and implement the international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism, including through targeted programmes and the training of relevant criminal justice and law enforcement officials, upon request, and the development of technical tools and publications, within its mandate;

24. *Calls upon* Member States to address the threat posed by radicalization to terrorism in prisons, and calls upon the United Nations, especially the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to continue to support Member States in this regard in cooperation and coordination with the Office of Counter-Terrorism;

25. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to increase collaboration with intergovernmental, international and regional organizations that have transnational organized crime mandates, as appropriate, in order to share best practices, foster cooperation and take advantage of their unique and comparative advantage;

26. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its country and regional offices in building capacity at the local level in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and urges the Office to consider regional vulnerabilities, projects and impacts in the fight against transnational organized crime in all its forms, in particular in developing countries, when deciding to close and allocate offices, with a view to maintaining an effective level of support to national and regional efforts in those areas;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with adequate resources to support, in an effective manner, efforts towards the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the conferences of the parties to the conventions, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as well as the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, in accordance with its mandate, and requests the Secretariat to continue to provide support to the Commissions within their respective mandates, enabling them to actively contribute, as appropriate, to the global follow-up and the thematic review of progress made by Member States in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals as set forth in resolutions 70/299, and 72/305 of 23 July 2018;

28. *Urges* all Member States to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand, improve and strengthen, within its mandates, its research, operational and technical cooperation activities;

29. *Expresses concern* regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, emphasizes the need to provide the Office with adequate, predictable and stable resources and to ensure their cost-effective utilization, and requests the Secretary-General, also considering the extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office, to continue to report, within existing reporting obligations, on the financial situation of the Office and to continue to ensure that the Office has sufficient resources to carry out its mandates fully and effectively;

30. *Invites* States and other interested parties to make further voluntary contributions to the United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and to the United Nations voluntary trust fund on contemporary forms of slavery;

31. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify national and international efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination, including racism, religious intolerance, xenophobia and gender-related discrimination by, inter alia, raising awareness, developing educational materials and programmes and considering, where appropriate, drafting and enforcing legislation against discrimination;

32. *Emphasizes* the importance of protecting vulnerable members of society, regardless of their status, who may be subject to multiple and aggravated forms of discrimination, and in that regard expresses its concern about the increase in the activities of transnational and national organized criminal groups and others who profit from crimes against migrants, especially women and children, without regard for dangerous and inhumane conditions and in flagrant violation of national laws and international law;

33. *Calls upon* Member States to implement, when appropriate, the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),<sup>705</sup> bearing in mind their spirit and purpose, and to intensify their efforts to address the challenge of prison overcrowding through appropriate criminal justice reforms, which should include, where appropriate, a review of penal policies and practical measures to reduce pretrial detention, to enhance the use of non-custodial sanctions and measures and to improve access to legal aid to the extent possible, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, in this respect;

34. *Invites* Member States to mainstream a gender perspective into their criminal justice systems, including by the use of non-custodial measures for women, when appropriate, and by improving the treatment of women prisoners,

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<sup>705</sup> Resolution 70/175, annex.



taking into consideration the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),<sup>706</sup> and by developing and implementing national strategies and plans to promote the full protection of women and girls from all acts of violence and to strengthen the crime prevention and criminal justice response to the gender-related killing of women and girls, in particular by taking measures to support the practical capacity of Member States to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish all forms of such crime, and welcomes in this respect the practical tools recommended by the open-ended intergovernmental expert group on gender-related killing of women and girls at its meeting held in Bangkok from 11 to 13 November 2014;<sup>707</sup>

35. *Also invites* Member States to integrate child- and youth-related issues into their criminal justice reform efforts, recognizing the importance of protecting children from all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse, consistent with the obligations of parties under relevant international instruments, and to develop comprehensive child-sensitive justice policies focused on the best interests of the child, consistent with the principle that the deprivation of liberty of children should be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time;

36. *Recognizes* the efforts made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist Member States in developing their abilities and strengthening their capacity to prevent and combat kidnapping, and requests the Office to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, with a view to fostering international cooperation, in particular mutual legal assistance, aimed at countering effectively this growing serious crime;

37. *Calls upon* Member States to consider ratifying or acceding to, and for States parties to effectively implement, the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>708</sup> to reinforce international cooperation for preventing and combating the smuggling of migrants and for the prosecution of smugglers, in accordance, as appropriate, with article 6 of the Protocol and with national laws and legislation, while effectively protecting the rights and respecting the dignity of smuggled migrants, consistent with the principles of non-discrimination and other applicable obligations under relevant international law, taking into account the special needs of women, children, especially when unaccompanied, and persons with disabilities and older persons, and in collaboration with international organizations, civil society and the private sector, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its technical assistance to Member States in accordance with the Protocol;

38. *Takes note* of the launch of the first United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime *Global Study on Smuggling of Migrants*, encourages Member States to promote the reliable collection of relevant data and research, at the national and, as appropriate, the regional and international levels, and invites the Office to systematically collect data and information from Member States on migrant smuggling routes, the modus operandi of migrant smugglers and the role of transnational organized crime, and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for this purpose;

39. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that, in investigating and prosecuting trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants, the concurrent undertaking of financial investigations is a standard practice, with a view to tracing, freezing and confiscating proceeds acquired through those crimes, and to consider trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants to be predicate offences of money-laundering;

40. *Emphasizes* the importance of preventing and combating all forms of trafficking in persons, and in this regard expresses its concern about the activities of transnational and national organized criminal groups and others who profit from such crimes, including for the purpose of organ removal, and calls upon Member States to consider ratifying or acceding to, and for States parties, in accordance with their obligations, to fully and effectively implement the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>693</sup> as well as to strengthen national efforts to combat all forms of trafficking in persons and to protect and assist the victims of trafficking in accordance with all relevant legal obligations and in collaboration with international organizations, civil society and the private sector, and in this regard calls upon the United Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its technical assistance to Member States in accordance with the Protocol;

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<sup>706</sup> Resolution 65/229, annex.

<sup>707</sup> See E/CN.15/2015/16.

<sup>708</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2241, No. 39574.



41. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism, including the phenomenon of travelling, returning and relocating foreign terrorist fighters, especially with regard to extradition and mutual legal assistance, and its financial sources, through the facilitation of the ratification and implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, in close consultation and cooperation with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning counter-terrorism (the Counter-Terrorism Committee) and its Executive Directorate, as well as to contribute to the work of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, established in accordance with resolution [71/291](#), and invites Member States to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with appropriate resources for its mandate;

42. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, within its mandate, technical assistance to Member States, upon their request, to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism through the Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism, in accordance with United Nations-related instruments and international standards, including, where applicable, standards and relevant initiatives of regional, interregional and multilateral organizations and intergovernmental bodies against money-laundering, inter alia and as appropriate, the Financial Action Task Force, in accordance with national legislation;

43. *Encourages* Member States to enhance the effectiveness of countering criminal threats to the tourism sector, including terrorist threats, through, when appropriate, the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant international organizations, in cooperation with the World Tourism Organization and the private sector;

44. *Affirms* that attacks intentionally directed against buildings dedicated to religion, education, art, science or charitable purposes, or historic monuments, or hospitals and places where the sick and wounded are collected, may amount to war crimes, stresses the importance of holding accountable perpetrators of attacks intentionally directed against the above-mentioned buildings, provided that they are not military objectives, and calls upon all States to take appropriate action to this end within their jurisdiction in accordance with applicable international law;

45. *Urges* States parties to make effective use of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime for broad cooperation in preventing and combating all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, including money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, especially in returning such confiscated proceeds of crime or property to their legitimate owners, in accordance with article 14, paragraph 2, of the Convention;

46. *Encourages* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime to promptly notify countries of origin when objects that may be cultural property removed from their territory are identified, and to exchange information and statistical data on all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, and reaffirms in this regard the importance of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences, as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution [69/196](#);

47. *Urges* Member States to introduce effective national and international measures to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in cultural property, including publicizing legislation, international guidelines and related technical background documents, and offering special training for police, customs and border services, and invites Member States to make trafficking in cultural property, including stealing from and looting of archaeological and other cultural sites, a serious crime, as defined in article 2 (b) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

48. *Also urges* Member States to take decisive steps at the national level to prevent, combat and eradicate the illegal trade in wildlife, on both the supply and demand sides, including by strengthening the legislation necessary for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of such illegal trade, as well as by strengthening enforcement and criminal justice responses, in accordance with national legislation and international law, acknowledging that the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime can provide valuable technical assistance in this regard;

49. *Calls upon* Member States to make illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora and in hazardous waste involving organized criminal groups a serious crime in accordance with their national legislation and with article 2 (b) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

50. *Also calls upon* Member States to take appropriate and effective measures to prevent and combat trafficking in precious metals, stones and other minerals by organized criminal groups, including, where appropriate, the adoption and effective implementation of the necessary legislation for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of illicit trafficking in precious metals, stones and other minerals;

51. *Encourages* Member States to continue to support the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing targeted technical assistance, within its existing mandate, to enhance the capacity of affected States, upon their request, to combat piracy and other forms of crime committed at sea, including by assisting Member States in creating an effective law enforcement response and strengthening their judicial capacity;

52. *Notes with appreciation* the fourth meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental Expert Group to Conduct a Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime and the responses to cybercrime by Member States, the international community and the private sector, and calls upon Member States to support the workplan of the Expert Group and to explore specific measures and develop possible conclusions and recommendations designed to create a secure and resilient cyberenvironment, to prevent and counter effectively criminal activities carried out over the Internet, paying particular attention to identity fraud-related offences, recruitment for the purpose of trafficking in persons and protecting children from online exploitation and abuse, to strengthen law enforcement cooperation at the national and international levels, including with the aim of identifying and protecting victims by, inter alia, removing child pornography and other child sexual abuse material from the Internet, to enhance the security of computer networks and protect the integrity of relevant infrastructure, and to endeavour to provide long-term technical assistance and capacity-building to strengthen the ability of national authorities to deal with cybercrime, including the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of such crime in all its forms;

53. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts in combating cybercrime and all forms of criminal misuse of information and communications technologies and to enhance international cooperation involving electronic evidence in this regard;

54. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to assist Member States, upon request, in combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and to support them in their efforts to address the links with other forms of transnational organized crime, through, inter alia, legislative assistance, technical support, improved data collection and analysis and strengthened national statistical systems, and in this respect invites Member States to provide the Office with relevant information and suitably disaggregated data through the regular data collection instrument on firearms trafficking;

55. *Urges* Member States to exchange good practices and experiences of practitioners who are involved in combating illicit trafficking in firearms and to consider the use of available tools, including marking and record-keeping technologies, to facilitate the tracing of firearms and, where possible, their parts and components and ammunition, in order to enhance criminal investigations into illicit trafficking in firearms;

56. *Urges* States parties to the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition that import and export parts and components of firearms to reinforce their control measures in line with the Protocol and other relevant international legal instruments to which they are party, with a view to preventing and reducing the risks of their diversion, illicit manufacturing and trafficking;

57. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify all efforts to address the world drug problem, based upon the principle of common and shared responsibility and through a comprehensive and balanced approach, including through more effective bilateral, regional and international cooperation among judicial and law enforcement authorities, to counter the involvement of organized criminal groups in illicit drug production and trafficking and related criminal activities and to take steps to reduce the violence that accompanies drug trafficking;

58. *Recommends* that Member States, as appropriate to their national contexts, adopt a comprehensive and integrated approach to crime prevention and criminal justice reform, based on baseline assessments, regular data collection and analysis, and focusing on all sectors of the justice system, and develop crime prevention policies, strategies and programmes, including ones that focus on early prevention by using multidisciplinary and participatory approaches, in close cooperation with all stakeholders, including civil society, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, to Member States for this purpose;

59. *Invites* Member States to start the gradual adoption of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes and to strengthen national statistical systems of criminal justice, requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate, to continue to strengthen the regular collection, analysis and

dissemination of accurate, reliable, timely and comparable data and information, including, as appropriate, data disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant criteria, and strongly encourages Member States to share such data and information with the Office;

60. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to develop, in close cooperation with Member States, technical and methodological tools and trend analyses and studies to enhance knowledge of crime trends and support Member States in designing appropriate responses in specific areas of crime, in particular in their transnational dimension and in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>680</sup> taking into account the need to make the best possible use of existing resources;

61. *Encourages* Member States to take relevant measures, as appropriate to their national contexts, to ensure the diffusion, use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including the consideration and, where they deem it necessary, dissemination of existing manuals, handbooks and capacity-building material developed and published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

62. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in collaboration and close consultation with Member States and within existing resources, to continue to support the enhancement of capacity and skills in the field of forensic sciences, including the setting of standards, and the development of technical assistance material for training, such as manuals, compilations of useful practices and guidelines and scientific and forensic reference material, for law enforcement officials and prosecution authorities, and to promote and facilitate the establishment and sustainability of regional networks of forensic science providers in order to enhance their expertise and capacity to prevent and combat transnational organized crime;

63. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, reflecting also emerging policy issues and possible responses.

### RESOLUTION 73/187

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/590, para. 45),<sup>709</sup> by a recorded vote of 94 to 59, with 33 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu

*Abstaining:* Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Cabo Verde, Colombia, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Lesotho, Liberia, Mauritius, Mexico, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uruguay

<sup>709</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burundi, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Eritrea, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Madagascar, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe.

**73/187. Countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes**

*The General Assembly,*

*Noting* that information and communications technologies, while having enormous potential for the development of States, create new opportunities for criminals and lead to a rise in crime,

*Noting also* the potential of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, in preventing and combating the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes,

*Concerned* by the increase in the rate and diversity of crimes committed in the digital world and their impact on the stability of critical infrastructure of States and enterprises and on the well-being of individuals,

*Recognizing* that diverse criminals, including traffickers in persons, are taking advantage of information and communications technologies to carry out criminal activities,

*Stressing* the need to enhance coordination and cooperation among States in combating the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes, including by providing technical assistance to developing countries, upon their request, to improve national legislation and build the capacity of national authorities to deal with such use in all its forms, including its prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution, and emphasizing in this context the role that the United Nations, in particular the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, plays,

*Recalling* Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 22/8 of 26 April 2013,<sup>710</sup> in which the Commission welcomed the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in fulfilling its mandate to provide technical assistance and capacity-building on cybercrime,

*Noting* the work, carried out by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, under the auspices of which an open-ended intergovernmental expert group was established to counter the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes,

*Recalling* its resolution 65/230 of 21 December 2010, in which the General Assembly endorsed the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World,

*Considering* the discussions held during the first to fourth meetings of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group, held in Vienna from 17 to 21 January 2011, 25 to 28 February 2013, 10 to 13 April 2017 and 3 to 5 April 2018, about the need to further enhance international discussion on and cooperation against cybercrime,

*Noting* the importance of the international and regional instruments in the fight against cybercrime and the ongoing efforts to examine options to strengthen existing and propose new national and international legal or other responses to the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes,

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/70 of 4 December 1998, 54/49 of 1 December 1999, 55/28 of 20 November 2000, 56/19 of 29 November 2001, 57/53 of 22 November 2002, 58/32 of 8 December 2003, 59/61 of 3 December 2004, 60/45 of 8 December 2005, 61/54 of 6 December 2006, 62/17 of 5 December 2007, 63/37 of 2 December 2008, 64/25 of 2 December 2009, 65/41 of 8 December 2010, 66/24 of 2 December 2011, 66/181 of 19 December 2011, 67/27 of 3 December 2012, 68/193 of 18 December 2013, 68/243 of 27 December 2013, 69/28 of 2 December 2014, 70/237 of 23 December 2015, 71/28 of 5 December 2016 and 72/196 of 19 December 2017,

*Taking note* of the reports of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security,<sup>711</sup>

*Taking note also* of Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 26/4 of 26 May 2017,<sup>712</sup> in which the Commission expressed appreciation for the work done by the Expert Group to Conduct a Comprehensive

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<sup>710</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2013, Supplement No. 10 (E/2013/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.

<sup>711</sup> A/65/201, A/68/98 and A/70/174.

<sup>712</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 10 (E/2017/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.

Study on Cybercrime and requested the Expert Group to continue its work, with a view to examining options to strengthen existing responses and propose new national and international legal or other responses to cybercrime,

*Reaffirming* the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the use of information and communications technologies,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the challenges that they face in countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes and to present a report based on those views for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

2. *Decides* that the additional costs that may arise from the implementation of paragraph 1 of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions;

3. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session an item entitled “Countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes”.

### RESOLUTION 73/188

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/590, para. 45)<sup>713</sup>

#### 73/188. United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 70/180 of 17 December 2015 and 71/207 of 19 December 2016 and all other relevant resolutions,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>714</sup>

*Bearing in mind* that weaknesses in crime prevention lead to subsequent difficulties at the level of crime control mechanisms, and bearing in mind also the urgent need to establish effective crime prevention strategies for Africa, as well as the importance of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary at the regional and subregional levels,

*Aware* of the devastating impact of new and more dynamic crime trends on the national economies of African States, such as the high levels of transnational organized crime, including the utilization of digital technology to commit all types of cybercrime, and aware also of illicit trafficking in cultural property, drugs, precious metals, rhinoceros horns and ivory, of piracy and money-laundering and of the fact that crime is a major obstacle to harmonious and sustainable development in Africa,

*Deeply concerned* about the growing links, in some cases, between some forms of transnational organized crime and terrorism, and recognizing that countering transnational organized crime and terrorism is a common and shared responsibility, and that criminal justice procedures will have to be more cost-conscious, timely and expeditious and sensitive to public responses to minimize or eliminate any suspicion of compromise,

*Emphasizing* that combating crime is a collective endeavour to meet the global challenge of organized crime and that investment of necessary resources in crime prevention is important to that aim and contributes to sustainable development,

*Noting with concern* that in most African countries the existing criminal justice system does not have sufficiently skilled personnel and adequate infrastructure and is therefore ill-equipped to manage the emergence of new crime trends, and acknowledging the challenges that Africa faces in litigation processes and the management of correctional institutions,

*Recognizing* that the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders is a focal point for professional efforts aimed at promoting the active cooperation and collaboration

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<sup>713</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, France, Hungary, Italy, Morocco (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Norway and Paraguay.

<sup>714</sup> A/73/133.

of Governments, academics, institutions and scientific and professional organizations and experts in crime prevention and criminal justice,

*Bearing in mind* the African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control (2013–2017), aimed at encouraging Member States to participate in and own the regional initiatives for effective crime prevention and good governance and strengthened justice administration,

*Recognizing* the importance of promoting sustainable development as a complement to crime prevention strategies,

*Emphasizing* the need to create necessary coalitions with all partners in order to achieve effective crime prevention policies,

*Recalling* the undertaking and conclusion of a preliminary diagnostic study by a consultant of the Economic Commission for Africa prior to the commencement of a full system-wide review process, including the significance of the Institute as a viable mechanism for promoting cooperation among the relevant entities to respond to the crime problem afflicting Africa,

*Expressing concern* over the continued absence of a director of the Institute, and noting the important role of such senior management positions in ensuring the normal functioning of the Institute,

*Noting with concern* that the financial situation of the Institute has greatly affected its capacity to deliver services to African Member States in an effective and comprehensive manner, and noting that one of the findings of the preliminary diagnostic study is that the Institute urgently needs to increase its income,

*Recalling* the detailed description provided in the report of the Secretary-General of funding deficiencies that have severely undermined the capacity of the Institute to serve the needs of the region, and recognizing that crime results in the expenditure of a significant amount of resources,

*Bearing in mind* that the Institute is an important component of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice network and that, without the necessary funds, the Institute will fail to accomplish its vital goals of combating drug trafficking, cybercrime and environmental crimes, among other challenges, as well as its goals of reforming the crucial deficiencies in the region's prosecution system and building effective and strong alliances among law enforcement personnel, professional bodies, academic institutions, individual communities, experts and traditional and civil authorities in order to proactively prevent crime,

*Acknowledging* the Member States and organizations that have maintained their commitment to the fulfilment of their financial obligations,

1. *Commends* the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for its efforts to promote, coordinate and carry out more activities within its core mandate, including regional technical cooperation related to crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa, despite the resource constraints under which it is operating;

2. *Welcomes* the decision of the Governing Board of the Institute to adopt the strategic plan for the period 2017–2021 to address crime in an integrated manner by strengthening national capacities for crime prevention and criminal justice, and calls upon Member States, including those members of the Institute, all relevant entities of the United Nations and non-governmental organizations to give the support necessary for its full implementation;

3. *Acknowledges* the progress made by African States in the implementation of the African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control (2013–2017) and the mechanism for its implementation, follow-up and evaluation;

4. *Encourages* Member States to raise awareness of the work of the Institute and its relevance to the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>715</sup>

5. *Reaffirms* the need to further strengthen the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries;

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<sup>715</sup> Resolution 70/1.



## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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6. *Also reaffirms* the benefits, in some cases, of the utilization of alternative remedial measures, where appropriate, applying standards of ethical conduct and using local traditions, counselling and other emerging correctional rehabilitation measures, consistent with the obligations of States under international law;

7. *Notes* the efforts of the Institute to establish contacts with organizations in those countries that are promoting crime prevention programmes and its maintenance of close links with regional and subregional political entities, such as the African Union Commission, the East African Community, the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the Southern African Development Community;

8. *Encourages* the Institute, in cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies, to take into account the various planning authorities in the region that focus attention on the coordination of activities that promote development based on sustainable agricultural production and preservation of the environment in developing its crime prevention strategies;

9. *Urges* States members of the Institute that have failed to meet their financial pledges to the Institute to pay all or part of those outstanding arrears, taking into consideration that member States are to fund 73 per cent of the approved budget, and in this regard encourages all member States and organizations to fully honour their financial obligations;

10. *Recalls* the introduction by the Institute of a cost-sharing initiative in its execution of various programmes with Member States, partners and United Nations entities;

11. *Urges* all Member States and non-governmental organizations and the international community to continue to adopt concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and in the implementation of its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

12. *Urges* all States that have not already done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,<sup>716</sup> as well as the United Nations Convention against Corruption,<sup>717</sup> and encourages States parties that have not yet implemented the conventions to inform the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of any impediments that they encounter and of their need for technical assistance to overcome those impediments;

13. *Encourages* African States that are not yet members of the Institute to consider becoming member States in order to enhance its collaborative efforts and enlarge its support base and thereby strengthen the fight against crime and terrorism, which hamper individual and collective development efforts on the continent;

14. *Commends* the continued support provided by the Government of Uganda as host country, including resolving the issue of the ownership of the land on which the Institute is located and facilitating the collaboration of the Institute with other stakeholders within Uganda and the region and with international partners;

15. *Also commends* the efforts of the Institute in implementing several programmes in the region, which have contributed, inter alia, to a growing set of coordinated remedial responses to crime on the basis of technical support in facilitating mutual assistance by law enforcement agencies and the emergence of regional jurisdictions;

16. *Recalls* the initiative of the Institute to collaborate with relevant universities to operationalize the link between criminal justice authorities and sources of traditional justice approaches so as to harmonize the use of restorative practices, where appropriate;

17. *Also recalls* the initiatives of the Institute to work with specific academic and specialized human rights institutions that are connected to other professional networks in the region to promote curricula that have a strong crime prevention and criminal justice component;

18. *Encourages* the Institute to consider focusing on specific and general vulnerabilities of each programme country, with an emphasis on tailoring practitioner training and development efforts to address identified

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<sup>716</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

<sup>717</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

vulnerabilities, and to maximize the use of available initiatives to address crime problems with existing funds, as well as available capacity, by creating useful coalitions with regional and local institutions;

19. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to work closely with the Institute, and requests the Institute to provide the annual report on its activities to the Office and to the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the promotion of regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimension, which cannot be dealt with adequately by national action alone;

21. *Notes* the ongoing efforts by the Governing Board of the Institute to mobilize States members of the Institute, with a view to obtaining and reaffirming their financial commitment to the Institute, in line with the decision of the Board, taken in Lilongwe on 29 May 2015, to address the decline in financial support for the programmes of the Institute;

22. *Reiterates its request*, made to the Secretary-General in its resolution [71/207](#), taking into consideration the strategic plan of the Institute for the period 2017–2021, to continue his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to maintain the Institute with the core Professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

23. *Also reiterates its request*, made to the Secretary-General in its resolution [71/207](#), to intensify efforts to mobilize all relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide the financial and technical support necessary to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its mandate, bearing in mind that the precarious financial situation of the Institute greatly undermines its capacity to respond positively and effectively to the growing need in the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders;

24. *Invites* Member States and other partners to consider providing extrabudgetary resources to enable the Institute to effectively implement its mandate;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including recommendations on further strengthening the capacity of the Institute.

### RESOLUTION 73/189

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/590](#), para. 45)<sup>718</sup>

#### **73/189. Strengthening and promoting effective measures and international cooperation on organ donation and transplantation to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>719</sup>

*Recalling* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>720</sup> and recognizing its integrated and indivisible nature,

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<sup>718</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Montenegro, Morocco, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

<sup>719</sup> Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

<sup>720</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

*Reaffirming* the commitments by Member States to take immediate and effective measures to eradicate all forms of trafficking in persons,

*Recalling* its resolutions 59/156 of 20 December 2004, entitled “Preventing, combating and punishing trafficking in human organs”, 71/322 of 8 September 2017, entitled “Strengthening and promoting effective measures and international cooperation on organ donation and transplantation to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs”, and 72/195 of 19 December 2017, entitled “Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons”, as well as Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolutions 23/2 of 16 May 2014<sup>721</sup> and 25/1 of 27 May 2016<sup>722</sup> on preventing and combating trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal,

*Reaffirming* the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime<sup>723</sup> and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>724</sup>

*Recalling* the adoption of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010, and underlining the importance of its full implementation,

*Welcoming* the adoption of the political declaration on the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly held at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 27 and 28 September 2017,<sup>725</sup>

*Recognizing* the need for a multidisciplinary approach, based on respect for all human rights, to combating trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the World Health Organization guiding principles on human cell, tissue and organ transplantation, endorsed by the sixty-third World Health Assembly in its resolution 63.22 of 21 May 2010,<sup>726</sup>

*Taking note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, on the issue of trafficking in persons for the removal of organs submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session,<sup>727</sup>

*Welcoming* the joint study by the United Nations and the Council of Europe, entitled “Trafficking in organs, tissues and cells and trafficking in human beings for the purpose of the removal of organs”, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime assessment toolkit, entitled “Trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal”, and taking note of the study by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, entitled “Trafficking in persons for the removal of organs: advancing a human rights approach and engaging human rights mechanisms”, and the 2018 edition of the Declaration of Istanbul on Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism,

*Taking note* of the Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs as the first regional legally binding document that provides a list of activities that constitute trafficking in human organs and includes provisions to prevent and combat this crime, to protect its victims and to promote cooperation among parties in the fight against this crime, which usually has a transnational scope,

*Affirming* that trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs constitute crimes that violate and impair the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms and have strong health implications, and stressing that it is essential to place the protection of all human rights at the centre of measures to prevent and end such trafficking,

*Recognizing* that, although differences exist between the crimes of trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, both crimes are related to the shortage of human organs available for

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<sup>721</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 10 (E/2014/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.

<sup>722</sup> *Ibid.*, 2016, *Supplement No. 10 (E/2016/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.

<sup>723</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

<sup>724</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

<sup>725</sup> Resolution 72/1.

<sup>726</sup> See World Health Organization, document WHA63/2010/REC/1.

<sup>727</sup> See A/68/256.

transplantation and to social and economic difficulties that make people vulnerable, and that prevention of and response to both crimes must be undertaken in an effective and coordinated manner,

*Considering* that the whole process of donation and transplantation of human organs should be an established part of national health services provided to the public, that the process should take place under conditions aimed at the protection of the rights of donors and recipients of organs and that health-care systems should be instrumental in ensuring such conditions,

*Considering also* that the commercial trade in human organs is prohibited in almost all Member States and that both trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs have a profound impact on the health both of those who sell their organs and of victims of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, as well as on recipients of organs obtained in such circumstances, and that both crimes might represent a threat to public health and may, in some cases, affect the integrity and the functioning of health-care systems,

*Alarmed* at the exploitation by criminal groups that take advantage of human needs, poverty and destitution and of other people in vulnerable situations for the purpose of trafficking in human organs, and trafficking in persons for the purpose of the removal of organs,

*Noting* the need to protect living donors and recipients, who are usually the most vulnerable members of society, from exploitation by traffickers in human organs, including by providing them with relevant information, as well as the need to investigate, prosecute and punish those traffickers and to provide assistance to victims,

*Emphasizing* the importance of respecting and protecting the rights of victims of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and, when recognized in national legislation, addressing the vulnerability of victims of trafficking in human organs, and providing assistance, as applicable,

*Convinced* of the need to strengthen local, regional and international cooperation for the effective prevention and combating of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs wherever they occur, and determined to prevent the provision of safe haven to those who participate in or profit from transnational organized crime and to prosecute such persons for the crimes that they commit,

1. *Urges* Member States to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs, in accordance with their obligations under international and national law, and to uphold accountability through measures that may include preventing and, in accordance with relevant national legislation, investigating, prosecuting and punishing trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs;

2. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to, as a matter of priority, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime<sup>723</sup> and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>724</sup> taking into consideration the central role of those instruments in the fight against trafficking in persons, and urges States parties to those instruments to implement them fully and effectively;

3. *Urges* Member States to consider adopting the following measures related to organ transplantation, in accordance with the fundamental principles of their domestic legal systems and national legislation and in line with the World Health Organization guiding principles on human cell, tissue and organ transplantation:<sup>728</sup>

(a) Strengthening legislative frameworks, including by reviewing, developing or amending them, as appropriate, to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs, including the criminalization of these practices and provisions to ensure the accountability of the perpetrators;

(b) Adopting appropriate legislative measures necessary to guarantee that the donation of organs is guided by clinical criteria and ethical norms, based on the donors' informed and voluntary consent, as an altruistic act, performed without any monetary payment or other reward of monetary value, for the living donor or the family of the deceased donor, or any other person or entity, which does not preclude reimbursing reasonable and verifiable expenses incurred by donors;

(c) Ensuring equitable access to human organ transplantation, on the basis of non-discrimination, and increasing public awareness and understanding of the benefits resulting from the voluntary non-remunerated

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<sup>728</sup> World Health Organization, document WHA63/2010/REC/1, annex 8.

provision of organs from deceased and living donors, and of the physical, psychological and social risks to individuals and communities caused by trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of the removal of organs, as well as transplant tourism;

(d) Ensuring that the removal of human organs from both deceased and living persons, as well as the transplantation of human organs, exclusively take place in centres specifically authorized for such activities by the relevant national health authorities and are not performed outside the framework of domestic transplantation systems or in situations where the transplantation is performed in breach of the guiding principles or national transplantation laws or rules;

(e) Developing and strengthening regulatory oversight of the medical facilities and medical professionals involved in the recovery and transplantation of human organs, including through control measures, such as periodic audits;

(f) Setting specific processes and criteria for the authorization of every organ removal and transplantation procedure;

(g) Establishing and developing registries that include information regarding each organ recovery and transplantation procedure and outcomes for living donors and recipients of organs, as well as identification systems that facilitate tracing each organ from donor to recipient and vice versa, with the purpose of ensuring the transparency of practices and the quality and safety of human organs, with due regard to professional confidentiality and personal data protection;

(h) Promoting the voluntary contribution of periodic information to international registers for organ donation and transplantation activity, such as the Global Observatory on Donation and Transplantation developed in collaboration with the World Health Organization;

(i) Providing long-term medical and psychosocial care for both living donors and recipients;

4. *Encourages* Member States, international organizations and civil society to ensure sustained efforts in terms of information and awareness-raising activities aimed at fostering a positive attitude on the part of society regarding donation, including posthumous donation, as a gesture of altruism, solidarity and community participation, to warn of the risks of organ removal when performed in the context of trafficking, in particular among people in vulnerable situations at risk of becoming victims of this crime;

5. *Encourages* Member States to exchange experience in and information on preventing, prosecuting and punishing trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, to combat the illicit financial flows resulting from such trafficking, as well as on the protection of victims, as appropriate, and to strengthen international cooperation between all relevant actors;

6. *Also encourages* Member States to progress towards self-sufficiency in the transplantation of human organs by developing preventive strategies aimed at decreasing the incidence of diseases treatable through transplantation, and at ethically increasing the availability of human organs for transplantation purposes, with special attention to maximizing donations from deceased donors and to protecting the health and welfare of living donors;

7. *Further encourages* Member States to develop effective and properly resourced organ donation and transplantation systems and provide technical assistance for their implementation in requesting countries;

8. *Encourages* Member States to provide training and capacity-building for law enforcement and border control officials, as well as for health-care professionals, on identifying potential cases, including on the Internet, of trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and on the need to certify the origin of organs to be transplanted and to report suspected or confirmed illegal practices;

9. *Also encourages* Member States to strengthen international cooperation in responding to the crimes of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs, as provided for in relevant and applicable law, including domestic and international law;

10. *Urges* Member States to further develop, in their domestic legislation, ways of protecting victims of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and, as appropriate, ways of addressing the vulnerability of those individuals who sell their organs, including by considering the following measures:

(a) Adopting all necessary measures, including legal measures, to protect the rights and interests of victims in the course of all phases of criminal prosecution and judicial proceedings and to ensure accountability;

(b) Facilitating the access of victims of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and, as allowed by domestic law, of those individuals who sell their organs to appropriate relevant information related to their case, while respecting their anonymity, as well as to the necessary protection of their health and other rights that are at stake;

(c) Providing medical and psychosocial care to victims of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and individuals who sell their organs in the short, medium and long term;

(d) Ensuring that domestic legal systems contain measures that offer victims of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and individuals who sell their organs the possibility of obtaining effective compensation for the damage suffered;

(e) Promoting the creation of governmental mechanisms and providing support to specialized non-governmental organizations, as appropriate, to address the needs of groups at risk of trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal in order to facilitate the provision of holistic and early care to potential or actual victims of those crimes, and ensuring that all support measures are non-discriminatory, gender-, age- and culturally sensitive and comply with their international human rights obligations and national legislation;

11. *Welcomes* the establishment of the World Health Organization Task Force on Donation and Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues to advise and support the World Health Organization at all levels in disseminating and implementing guiding principles and capacity-building in order to ensure ethical practices in organ and tissue donation and transplantation worldwide;

12. *Requests* the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide guidelines to Member States for developing orderly, ethical and acceptable programmes for the acquisition and transplantation of human organs for therapeutic purposes, and to intensify the coordination of efforts in combating organ trafficking and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, including the development of additional transplantation registries;

13. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to engage in a dialogue with members of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons and other relevant intergovernmental international organizations, in particular the World Health Organization, in close consultation with Member States, so as to enable the Office to improve data collection and analysis on instances of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and relevant prosecutions, and to promote research among diverse fields, such as the medical and health management fields, as well as on the part of the anti-trafficking community, while bearing in mind that data on trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal are being gathered for the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, in accordance with the provisions set out in General Assembly resolution 70/179 of 17 December 2015;

14. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in collaboration with other entities of the United Nations system, including the World Health Organization, to continue providing capacity-building and technical assistance to States, upon request, to assist them in strengthening national capacities to effectively prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs;

15. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the purpose of implementing the present resolution and to the World Health Organization to disseminate and implement the principles endorsed by World Health Assembly to address the ethical aspects of organ transplantation, such as voluntary and unpaid donation, universal access to transplant services, the availability, safety and quality of the procedures and national accountability through the development of sustainable transplant systems and the achievement of national self-sufficiency in order to stop organ trafficking and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, as well as transplant tourism;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, all costs associated with it to be covered by extrabudgetary resources;

17. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-fifth session under the item entitled “Crime prevention and criminal justice”.



## RESOLUTION 73/190

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/590, para. 45)<sup>729</sup>

### **73/190. Preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 54/205 of 22 December 1999, 55/61 of 4 December 2000, 55/188 of 20 December 2000, 56/186 of 21 December 2001 and 57/244 of 20 December 2002, and recalling also its resolutions 58/205 of 23 December 2003, 59/242 of 22 December 2004, 60/207 of 22 December 2005, 61/209 of 20 December 2006, 62/202 of 19 December 2007, 63/226 of 19 December 2008, 64/237 of 24 December 2009, 65/169 of 20 December 2010, 67/189 and 67/192 of 20 December 2012, 68/195 of 18 December 2013, 69/199 of 18 December 2014 and 71/208 of 19 December 2016 and all relevant Human Rights Council resolutions, including resolutions 23/9 of 13 June 2013,<sup>730</sup> 29/11 of 2 July 2015<sup>731</sup> and 35/25 of 23 June 2017,<sup>732</sup>

*Welcoming* the entry into force on 14 December 2005 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,<sup>733</sup> which is the most comprehensive and universal instrument on corruption, and recognizing the need to continue to promote its ratification or accession thereto and its full and effective implementation,

*Stressing* the need for States parties to the Convention to give full effect to the resolutions of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

*Bearing in mind* the need to promote and strengthen measures to prevent and combat corruption more efficiently and effectively, that the return of assets is one of the main objectives, an integral part and a fundamental principle of the Convention, and recalling article 51 of the Convention, under which States parties shall afford one another the widest measure of cooperation and assistance with regard to asset return,

*Recognizing* that fighting corruption at all levels and in all its forms is a priority and that corruption is a serious barrier to effective resource mobilization and allocation and diverts resources away from activities that are vital for poverty eradication and sustainable development,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

*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

<sup>729</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Russian Federation, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam and Zambia.

<sup>730</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/68/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>731</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/70/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>732</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/72/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>733</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

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*, as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 70/174 of 17 December 2015 on the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and welcoming the adoption, at the high-level segment of the Thirteenth Congress, of the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation,<sup>734</sup> through which States committed to implement effective measures to detect, prevent and counter corruption, as well as the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, and to strengthen international cooperation and assistance to Member States in the identification, freezing or seizure of such assets, as well as in their recovery and return, in accordance with the Convention, in particular chapter V thereof, and in this regard to continue to discuss innovative modalities to improve mutual legal assistance in order to speed up asset recovery proceedings and render them more successful, while also drawing on the experience and knowledge built through the implementation of the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank,

*Recognizing* that education plays a fundamental role in the prevention of and fight against corruption, inasmuch as it makes corrupt behaviour socially unacceptable,

*Reaffirming* the importance of respect for human rights, the rule of law at the national and international levels, the proper management of public affairs and democracy in the fight against corruption,

*Acknowledging* that good governance, at the national and international levels, has a role in the prevention of and fight against corruption,

*Recognizing* that improvements in the promotion and protection of human rights at the domestic level have a role to play in the prevention of and the fight against corruption at all levels,

*Realizing* that the fight against corruption at all levels, including by facilitating international cooperation to achieve the purposes enshrined in the Convention, including on asset recovery and return, plays an important role in the promotion and protection of all human rights and in the process of creating an environment conducive to their full enjoyment and realization,

*Recognizing* that supportive national legal systems are essential in preventing and combating corrupt practices, facilitating asset recovery and returning the proceeds of corruption to legitimate owners,

*Recalling* that the purposes of the Convention, as set out in article 1, are to promote and strengthen measures to prevent and combat corruption more efficiently and effectively, to promote, facilitate and support international cooperation and technical assistance in the prevention of and fight against corruption, including in asset recovery, and to promote the integrity, accountability and proper management of public affairs and public property,

*Recalling also* article 43, paragraph 1, of the Convention, in which States parties are encouraged, where appropriate and consistent with their domestic legal systems, to consider assisting each other in investigations of and proceedings in civil and administrative matters relating to corruption,

*Welcoming* the commitment of States parties to the Convention, in particular their determination to give effect to the obligations set out in chapter V of the Convention in order to prevent, detect, deter and recover in a more effective manner the international transfer of proceeds of crime and to strengthen international cooperation in asset recovery,

*Recalling* the third preambular paragraph of the Convention, in which States parties expressed concern about cases of corruption that involve vast quantities of assets, which may constitute a substantial proportion of the resources of States, and that threaten the political stability and sustainable development of those States,

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<sup>734</sup> Resolution 70/174, annex.

*Recognizing* that those who engage in corrupt acts, whether natural or legal persons, should be held accountable and prosecuted by their domestic authorities, consistent with domestic law and the requirements of the Convention, and that all appropriate efforts should be made to conduct a financial investigation into assets illegally acquired by them and to recover such assets through domestic confiscation proceedings, international cooperation for purposes of confiscation or appropriate direct recovery measures,

*Acknowledging* that the fight against all forms of corruption requires comprehensive anti-corruption frameworks and strong institutions at all levels, including at the local and international levels, able to undertake efficient preventive and law enforcement measures in accordance with the Convention, in particular chapters II and III, and recognizing the strategic role of a holistic approach to countering corruption, money-laundering and transnational organized crime,

*Welcoming* resolution 7/8 of 10 November 2017 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption on corruption in sport,<sup>735</sup> which, inter alia, noted with great concern the risk that corruption and economic crime, including money-laundering, pose to sport, as well as resolution 7/5 of 10 November 2017 of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on promoting preventive measures against corruption,<sup>736</sup> which called upon States parties to continue implementing and to reinforce the effective implementation of the preventive measures outlined in chapter II of the Convention and in the resolutions of the Conference of the States Parties,

*Noting* the efforts of Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and bodies, intergovernmental organizations and forums and sport-related organizations to strengthen cooperation and further coordinate efforts to effectively mitigate the risks of corruption in sport, highlighting also the key role of public-private partnerships and multi-stakeholder approaches,

*Recognizing* that the success of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption depends on the full commitment and constructive engagement of all States parties to the Convention in a progressive and comprehensive process, and recalling in that regard resolution 3/1 of 13 November 2009 of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention,<sup>736</sup> including the terms of reference of the Mechanism contained in the annex to that resolution, decision 5/1 of 29 November 2013<sup>737</sup> and resolution 6/1 of 6 November 2015<sup>738</sup> of the Conference of the States Parties,

*Noting with appreciation* the commitment of States parties to the Convention to the first review cycle process of the Mechanism, both as countries under review and as reviewing States, as well as the support provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in this regard,

*Recognizing* the launch of the second review cycle of the Mechanism pursuant to paragraph 13 of the terms of reference of the Mechanism and consistent with resolution 6/1 of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention,

*Bearing in mind* that the prevention and eradication of corruption is a responsibility of all States and that they must cooperate with one another, with the support and involvement of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, academia and community-based organizations, if their efforts in this area are to be effective,

*Reaffirming* that strengthening international cooperation among law enforcement and other relevant agencies is a global imperative in order to effectively prevent and combat transnational corruption,

*Affirming* the importance of promoting dialogue among central authorities and practitioners prior to the submission of mutual legal assistance requests, which are particularly valuable in investigations of corruption, and coordination and cooperation on asset recovery through inter-agency networks, including regional networks, where appropriate,

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<sup>735</sup> See [CAC/COSP/2017/14](#), sect. I.A.

<sup>736</sup> See [CAC/COSP/2009/15](#), sect. I.A.

<sup>737</sup> See [CAC/COSP/2013/18](#), sect. I.B.

<sup>738</sup> See [CAC/COSP/2015/10](#), sect. I.

*Reaffirming its concern* about the laundering and transfer of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption, and stressing the need to address this concern in accordance with the Convention,

*Expressing concern* over illicit financial flows, and related tax evasion, corruption and money-laundering, and their negative impact on the world economy, and inviting Member States to consider developing strategies or policies to combat those practices and to curb the harmful effects of jurisdictions and territories that are uncooperative in tax matters and to strive to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for the transfer abroad of stolen assets and for illicit financial flows,

*Noting* the efforts made by all States parties to the Convention in tracing, freezing and recovering their stolen assets, and underlining the need to redouble efforts to assist in the recovery of those assets in order to preserve stability and sustainable development,

*Recognizing* that States continue to face challenges in recovering assets owing to differences between legal systems, the complexity of multijurisdictional investigations and prosecutions, the limited implementation of effective domestic tools such as non-conviction-based forfeiture for asset recovery, as well as other administrative or civil procedures leading to confiscation, lack of familiarity with the mutual legal assistance procedures of other States and difficulties in identifying the flow of corruption proceeds, and noting the particular challenges posed in recovering the proceeds of corruption in cases involving individuals who are or have been entrusted with prominent public functions, as well as their family members and close associates,

*Concerned* about the difficulties, particularly the legal and practical difficulties, that both requested and requesting States face in asset recovery, taking into account the particular importance of the recovery of stolen assets for sustainable development and stability, and noting the difficulty of providing information establishing a link between proceeds of corruption in the requested State and the crime committed in the requesting State, which in many cases can be difficult to prove,

*Recognizing* the common difficulties experienced by States parties to the Convention in establishing a nexus between identified assets and the crime from which such assets are derived, and emphasizing the critical importance of effective domestic investigative efforts and international cooperation to overcome such difficulties,

*Recognizing also* the critical importance of effective international cooperation in efforts to combat corruption, particularly with respect to offences specified in the Convention with a transnational element, and encouraging continued cooperation by States parties, consistent with the requirements of the Convention, in all efforts to investigate and prosecute natural and legal persons, including the use of other legal mechanisms, where appropriate, for offences specified in the Convention and to recover assets related to such offences, consistent with chapter V of the Convention,

*Calling upon* all States parties to the Convention and, in particular, requested and requesting States, to cooperate to recover the proceeds of corruption and demonstrate strong commitment to ensure the return or disposal of such proceeds in accordance with article 57 of the Convention,

*Noting* the responsibility of requesting and requested States parties to cooperate to ensure that a greater proportion of the proceeds emanating from corruption are recovered, returned or otherwise disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Convention,

*Concerned* that some persons accused of crimes of corruption have managed to escape justice and thus have eluded the legal consequences of their actions and have been successful in hiding their assets,

*Taking into account* the need to hold corrupt officials accountable by depriving them of the illicit profits and proceeds of their crimes,

*Acknowledging* the vital importance of ensuring the independence and effectiveness of authorities charged with investigating and prosecuting crimes of corruption and of recovering the proceeds of such crimes by several means, such as establishing the necessary legal framework and allocating the necessary resources,

*Acknowledging also* the fundamental principles of due process of law in criminal proceedings and in civil or administrative proceedings to adjudicate property rights,

*Reiterating its concern* about the seriousness of problems and threats posed by corruption to the stability and security of societies, undermining the institutions and the values of democracy, ethical values and justice and jeopardizing sustainable development and the rule of law, in particular when an inadequate national and international response leads to impunity,

*Concerned* about the negative impact of widespread corruption on the enjoyment of human rights, recognizing that corruption constitutes one of the obstacles to the effective promotion and protection of human rights, as well as to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognizing also that corruption may disproportionately affect the most disadvantaged individuals of society,

*Stressing* that preventive measures, as outlined in chapter II of the Convention, are one of the most effective means of countering corruption and avoiding its negative impact on the enjoyment of human rights, and underlining that prevention measures should be strengthened at all levels,

*Noting with appreciation* the ongoing efforts by regional organizations and forums to strengthen cooperation in combating corruption, which aim, inter alia, to ensure openness and transparency, combat domestic and foreign bribery, tackle corruption in high-risk sectors, strengthen international cooperation and promote public integrity and transparency in the fight against corruption, which fuels illicit trade and insecurity and is a tremendous barrier to economic growth and the safety of citizens,

*Noting with appreciation also* the efforts made by those States that have established national coordination mechanisms between, inter alia, the different levels of their Governments and other actors, such as civil society organizations, the private sector and academia, to prevent and combat corruption,

*Noting with appreciation further* the efforts of regional organizations and forums to combat corruption, including, inter alia, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Course of Action on Fighting Corruption and Ensuring Transparency and the Santiago Commitment to Fight Corruption and Ensure Transparency, and the Group of 20 Anti-Corruption Action Plan, the Group of 20 Anti-Corruption Open Data Principles, the Saint Petersburg Development Strategy, the non-binding Guiding Principles on Enforcement of the Foreign Bribery Offence, the Guiding Principles to Combat Solicitation, the Asset Recovery Principles, the asset recovery country profiles and the Asset Recovery Guides,

*Noting with appreciation* the work of other initiatives in the field of asset recovery, such as the Arab Forum on Asset Recovery, and welcoming their efforts to enhance cooperation between requesting and requested States,

*Noting with appreciation also* the Lausanne process initiative, and welcoming the fulfilment of the mandate contained in resolutions 5/3 of 29 November 2013,<sup>739</sup> 6/2 and 6/3 of 6 November 2015<sup>738</sup> and 7/1 of 10 November 2017<sup>735</sup> of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention to develop practical guidelines on and a step-by-step guide for the efficient recovery of stolen assets, in close cooperation with the International Centre for Asset Recovery of the Basel Institute on Governance and with the support of the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank, that provides effective and coordinated approaches to asset recovery for practitioners from requesting and requested States,

*Welcoming* resolution 6/2 on facilitating international cooperation in asset recovery and the return of proceeds of crime, resolution 6/3 on fostering effective asset recovery and resolution 6/4 of 6 November 2015 on enhancing the use of civil and administrative proceedings against corruption, including through international cooperation, in the framework of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,<sup>738</sup> adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention at its sixth session, held in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 2 to 6 November 2015, and resolution 7/1 on strengthening mutual legal assistance for international cooperation and asset recovery,

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the seventh session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Vienna from 6 to 10 November 2017, and also welcomes its report,<sup>740</sup> which reflects the outcomes and contributions of the Conference of the States Parties to promoting the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption;<sup>733</sup>

2. *Condemns* corruption at all levels and in all its forms, including bribery, as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption and other forms of economic crime;

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<sup>739</sup> See [CAC/COSP/2013/18](#), sect. I.A.

<sup>740</sup> [CAC/COSP/2017/14](#).

3. *Expresses concern* about the magnitude of corruption at all levels, including the scale of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption, and in this regard reiterates its commitment to preventing and combating corrupt practices at all levels, in accordance with the Convention;
4. *Welcomes* the fact that 186 States parties have already ratified or acceded to the Convention, thus making it an instrument enjoying a status very close to universal adherence, and in this regard urges all Member States and competent regional economic integration organizations, within the limits of their competence, that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, and urges all States parties to take appropriate measures to ensure its full and effective implementation;
5. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to review its implementation and commit to making it an effective instrument to deter, detect, prevent and counter corruption and bribery, prosecute those involved in corrupt activities and encourage the international community to develop good practices on asset return, and, furthermore, to strive to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for transfer abroad of stolen assets and for illicit financial flows;
6. *Notes with appreciation* the high-level debate of the General Assembly marking the fifteenth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention, held in New York on 23 May 2018;
7. *Also notes with appreciation* the work carried out under the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and by the Implementation Review Group, and urges Member States to continue to support this work and make every possible effort to provide comprehensive information and adhere to the timelines for review, as contained in the guidelines for governmental experts and the secretariat in the conduct of country reviews;<sup>741</sup>
8. *Welcomes* the progress made in the first review cycle of the Mechanism and the efforts made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in support of the Mechanism, and encourages the use of the lessons learned during the first review cycle in order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Mechanism, as well as the implementation of the Convention;
9. *Strongly encourages* States parties to the Convention to continue to actively engage in the second review cycle of the Mechanism on chapter II, Preventive measures, and chapter V, Asset recovery, of the Convention, and invites them to provide appropriate extrabudgetary resources to contribute to the financing of the second review cycle;
10. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Groups on Asset Recovery, on the Prevention of Corruption and on Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and encourages States parties to the Convention to support the work of all these subsidiary bodies of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;
11. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to continue and to reinforce the effective implementation of the preventive measures outlined in chapter II of the Convention and in the resolutions of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;
12. *Also calls upon* States parties to the Convention to fulfil their commitments, in accordance with its terms, to criminalize the bribery of foreign public officials and officials of public international organizations and to strengthen their efforts to effectively enforce these laws;
13. *Encourages* all States parties to the Convention to strengthen their commitment to effective national action and international cooperation to give full effect to chapter V of the Convention and to contribute effectively to the recovery of the proceeds of corruption;
14. *Urges* Member States to combat and penalize corruption in all its forms, as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption, to prevent the acquisition, transfer and laundering of proceeds of corruption and to work for the prompt recovery of such assets in accordance with the principles of the Convention, including chapter V;
15. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to make available online, including by considering the use of open data formats, as much government information as feasible, subject to relevant limitations in domestic law, in relation to the implementation of the Convention, in order to enable greater transparency, accountability and efficiency;

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<sup>741</sup> CAC/COSP/IRG/2010/7, annex I.



16. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention to call upon States parties to give particular and timely consideration to the execution of international mutual legal assistance requests that need urgent action, and to ensure that the competent authorities of requested States have adequate resources to execute requests, taking into account the particular importance of the recovery of these assets for sustainable development and stability;<sup>742</sup>

17. *Urges* States parties that have yet to designate a central authority for international cooperation in accordance with the Convention to do so, and to appoint focal points for the purposes of international cooperation and mutual legal assistance in asset recovery, and, where appropriate, encourages States parties to make full use of the network of focal points of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery to facilitate cooperation and the implementation of the Convention, as well as the Global Focal Point Network on Asset Recovery, supported by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime through the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative and by the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);

18. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to use and promote informal channels of communication and the possibility of spontaneous exchange of information, as permitted by domestic law, in particular prior to making formal requests for mutual legal assistance, by, inter alia, designating officials or institutions, as appropriate, with technical expertise in international cooperation in asset recovery to assist their counterparts in effectively meeting requirements for mutual legal assistance;

19. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to remove barriers to asset recovery, including by simplifying their legal procedures and preventing abuse of those procedures, and also encourages States parties to limit, where appropriate, domestic legal immunities, in accordance with their legal systems and constitutional principles;

20. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to give full effect to the resolutions, including those on asset recovery, of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

21. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to afford one another the widest possible cooperation and assistance in the identification and recovery of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption and to give particular and timely consideration to the execution of requests for international mutual legal assistance, in accordance with the Convention, and to afford one another the widest possible cooperation and assistance in the extradition of individuals accused of the predicate offences, in accordance with their obligations under the Convention, including article 44;

22. *Also urges* States parties to the Convention to ensure that procedures for international cooperation allow for the seizure and/or restraint of assets for a time period sufficient to preserve those assets in full, pending confiscation proceedings in another State, to ensure that there are adequate mechanisms in place to manage and preserve the value and condition of assets pending the conclusion of confiscation proceedings in another State, and to allow or expand cooperation in the enforcement of foreign seizure and freezing orders and confiscation judgments, including through measures to permit recognition of non-conviction-based seizure and freezing orders and confiscation judgments, where possible;

23. *Further urges* States parties to the Convention to take a proactive approach to international cooperation in asset recovery by making full use of the mechanisms provided for in chapter V of the Convention, including initiating requests for assistance, making spontaneous and prompt disclosures of information on proceeds of offences to other States parties and considering making requests for notifications, in accordance with article 52, paragraph 2 (b), of the Convention, and, where appropriate, implementing measures to permit the recognition of non-conviction-based forfeiture judgments;

24. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to ensure that reliable, accurate and updated beneficial ownership information on companies is accessible to law enforcement agencies and other relevant authorities, including, as appropriate, financial intelligence units and tax administrations, thus facilitating the investigation process and the execution of requests, and encourages States parties to the Convention to cooperate in order to implement the measures necessary to enable them to obtain reliable information on beneficial ownership of companies, legal structures or other complex legal mechanisms, including trusts and holdings, used to commit crimes of corruption or to hide and transfer proceeds;

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<sup>742</sup> CAC/COSP/2013/18, sect. I.A, resolution 5/3, para. 6.

25. *Urges* Member States, where appropriate and consistent with their national legal systems, to provide each other with the widest possible assistance in investigations of and proceedings in civil and administrative matters relating to corruption offences, committed by natural or legal persons, including, if appropriate, through mutual legal assistance, for the detection of corruption offences, the identification, freezing and confiscation of assets, and the other purposes established in article 46, paragraph 3, of the Convention;

26. *Calls upon* Member States to take the necessary measures, in accordance with their domestic law, to permit another Member State to initiate civil action in their courts to establish title to or ownership of property acquired through the commission of corruption offences by natural or legal persons, as well as to permit their courts to recognize a civil claim of another Member State for payment of compensation or damages caused by corruption offences and for ownership of confiscated property acquired through the commission of such offences;

27. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to prevent, investigate and prosecute corruption offences established in accordance with the Convention, including, among others, when they involve vast quantities of assets, to freeze, seize, confiscate and return proceeds of offences, in accordance with the Convention, and to consider measures criminalizing attempts to commit such offences, including when organized criminal groups are involved;

28. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to take measures to ensure that legal and natural persons are held accountable for corruption offences in accordance with its terms, including, among others, when they involve vast quantities of assets, and encourages States parties to the Convention to consider the legal aspects of asset recovery and to strengthen cooperation in criminal matters, in accordance with chapter IV of the Convention;

29. *Encourages* Member States to prevent and combat all forms of corruption by increasing transparency, integrity, accountability and efficiency in the public and private sectors, and recognizes in this regard the need to prevent impunity by prosecuting corrupt officials and those who corrupt them and to cooperate in their extradition, in accordance with the obligations under the Convention;

30. *Stresses* the need for transparency in financial institutions, invites Member States to work on the identification and tracking of financial flows linked to corruption, the freezing or seizing of assets derived from corruption and the return of such assets, in accordance with the Convention, and encourages the promotion of human and institutional capacity-building in that regard;

31. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to give timely consideration to mutual legal assistance requests relating to the identification, freezing, tracing and/or recovery of proceeds of corruption and to respond effectively to requests for exchange of information related to proceeds of crime, property, equipment or other instruments referred to in article 31 of the Convention situated in the territory of the requested State party, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, including article 40;

32. *Urges* States, in accordance with the fundamental principles of their legal systems, to develop and implement or maintain effective, coordinated anti-corruption policies that promote the participation of society and reflect the principles of the rule of law, proper management of public affairs and public property, integrity, transparency and accountability, and in this respect encourages legal professionals and non-governmental organizations, where appropriate, to assist businesses, in particular small and medium-sized businesses, to develop codes of conduct and compliance programmes for preventing bribery and corruption and promoting integrity;

33. *Invites* States parties to the Convention to recognize the importance of the involvement of young people and children as key actors in strengthening ethical behaviour, beginning with the identification and adoption of values, principles and actions that make it possible to build a fair and corruption-free society, in accordance with the Convention;

34. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to effectively implement all resolutions and decisions of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, including resolution 7/8 on corruption in sport,<sup>735</sup> *inter alia*, through taking robust legislative and law enforcement measures, supporting technical assistance and promoting capacity-building initiatives, as appropriate, and promoting cooperation between law enforcement agencies and relevant sport-related organizations and stakeholders, as well as resolution 7/5 on promoting preventive measures against corruption;<sup>735</sup>

35. *Welcomes* the efforts of Member States that have enacted laws and taken other positive measures in the fight against corruption in all its forms, and in this regard encourages Member States that have not yet done so to enact such laws and to implement effective measures at the national level, in accordance with the Convention;

36. *Notes* the establishment by States of financial intelligence units, and encourages States that have not yet done so to consider establishing such units in accordance with article 58 of the Convention;

37. *Reaffirms* the need for Member States to take measures to prevent the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, including to prevent the financial institutions in both countries of origin and countries of destination from being used to transfer or receive illicit funds, as well as to assist in their recovery and to return such assets to the requesting State, in accordance with the Convention;

38. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to work with all stakeholders in international and domestic financial markets to deny safe haven to assets acquired illicitly by individuals engaged in corruption, to deny entry and safe haven to corrupt officials and those who corrupt them and to enhance international collaboration in the investigation and prosecution of corruption offences, as well as in the recovery of proceeds of corruption;

39. *Urges* all Member States to abide by the principles of proper management of public affairs and public property, fairness, responsibility and equality before the law and the need to safeguard integrity and to foster a culture of transparency, accountability and rejection of corruption, in accordance with the Convention;

40. *Invites* Member States to make every effort to prevent and counter corruption and to implement measures aimed at enhancing transparency in public administration and promoting the integrity and accountability of their criminal justice systems, in accordance with the Convention;

41. *Calls for* further international cooperation, inter alia, through the United Nations system, in support of national, subregional and regional efforts to prevent and combat corrupt practices and the transfer and laundering of proceeds of corruption, in accordance with the principles of the Convention, and in this regard encourages close and enhanced coordination, cooperation and synergies between anti-corruption agencies, law enforcement agencies and financial intelligence units;

42. *Also calls for* closer and active collaboration among interested States parties to the Convention, regional organizations and the United Nations system, including international financial institutions, in identifying commendable practices in effective and coordinated approaches to asset recovery consistent with chapter V of the Convention;

43. *Stresses* the need for further cooperation and coordination among the different international, regional and subregional organizations and initiatives mandated to prevent and combat corruption;

44. *Urges* Member States to take appropriate measures, within their means and in accordance with fundamental principles of their national law, to promote the active participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, the private sector and academia, in the prevention of and fight against corruption and to raise public awareness, through, inter alia, media campaigns, regarding the existence, causes and gravity of and the threat posed by corruption;

45. *Recalls* article 63, paragraph 4 (c), of the Convention, in which it is stated, inter alia, that the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention shall agree upon activities, procedures and methods of work to achieve the objectives set forth in paragraph 1 of that article, including by cooperating with relevant international and regional organizations and mechanisms and non-governmental organizations, and in this regard invites the Conference of the States Parties to give due consideration to the implementation of the above-mentioned provision;

46. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the implementation of the Convention and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, and also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention is adequately funded, consistent with the resolution adopted by the Conference of the States Parties at its sixth session;<sup>736</sup>

47. *Reiterates its call upon* the private sector, at both the international and the national levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, to remain fully engaged in the fight against corruption, notes in this context the role that the United Nations Global Compact can play in fighting corruption and promoting transparency, emphasizes the need for all relevant stakeholders, including within the United Nations system, as appropriate, to continue to promote corporate responsibility and accountability, and in this regard welcomes the adoption on 29 November 2013 of resolution 5/6 on the private sector<sup>739</sup> and the adoption on 6 November 2015 of resolution 6/5, the Saint Petersburg statement on promoting public-private partnership in the prevention of and fight against corruption,<sup>738</sup> by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

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48. *Recognizes* the important role of business and public-private partnerships in promoting measures to fight corruption, especially measures that support the promotion of ethical business practices in interactions between government, business and other stakeholders;

49. *Encourages* Member States to implement and raise awareness regarding effective anti-corruption education programmes;

50. *Urges* the international community to provide, inter alia, technical assistance to support national efforts to strengthen human and institutional capacity aimed at preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption and to facilitate asset recovery and the return and disposal of such proceeds in accordance with the Convention, and to support national efforts in formulating strategies for mainstreaming and promoting anti-corruption efforts, transparency and integrity in both the public and the private sectors;

51. *Urges* States parties and signatories to the Convention to strengthen the capacity of legislators, law enforcement officials, judges and prosecutors to combat corruption and to deal with matters relating to asset recovery, including in the areas of mutual legal assistance, confiscation, criminal confiscation and, where appropriate, non-conviction-based forfeiture, in accordance with national law and the Convention, and civil and administrative proceedings, and to give the highest consideration to providing technical assistance in those fields, upon request;

52. *Encourages* Member States to exchange and share with each other, including through regional and international organizations, as appropriate, information on lessons learned and good practices, as well as information related to technical assistance activities and initiatives in order to strengthen international efforts to prevent and combat corruption;

53. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to provide regular updates and to expand, where appropriate, the information contained in the relevant databases of knowledge on asset recovery, such as Tools and Resources for Anti-Corruption Knowledge and Asset Recovery Watch, taking into consideration constraints on information-sharing based on confidentiality requirements;

54. *Encourages* the collection and systematization of good practices and tools in the cooperation for asset recovery, including the use and expansion of secure information-sharing tools, with a view to enhancing early and spontaneous information exchange insofar as possible and in accordance with the Convention;

55. *Also encourages* the collection of substantial information duly researched and regularly published by recognized organizations and representatives of civil society;

56. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to make widely available information on their legal frameworks and procedures with regard to asset recovery under chapter V of the Convention, in practical asset recovery, mutual legal assistance and beneficial ownership guides or other formats designed to facilitate use by other States, and to consider, where advisable, the publication of that information in other languages;

57. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to share approaches and practical experience for the return of assets, consistent with article 57 of the Convention, for further dissemination through the Secretariat;

58. *Encourages* requesting States to ensure that adequate national investigative procedures have been initiated and substantiated for the purpose of presenting mutual legal assistance requests, and in this context encourages requested States to provide, when appropriate, information on legal frameworks and procedures to the requesting State;

59. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to compile and provide information in accordance with article 52 of the Convention and to take other actions that help to establish the linkage between assets and offences under the Convention;

60. *Notes with appreciation* the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank and its cooperation with relevant partners, including the International Centre for Asset Recovery and INTERPOL, and encourages coordination among existing initiatives;

61. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, in collaboration with the World Bank through the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative and in coordination with other relevant stakeholders, upon request, technical assistance for the implementation of chapter V of the Convention, including by providing direct

expertise on policy or capacity-building through the Office's thematic programme on action against corruption, economic fraud and identity-related crime and, where appropriate, regional programmes, using its range of technical assistance tools;

62. *Encourages* Member States to implement effective measures to detect, prevent and counter corruption, as well as the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, and to strengthen international cooperation and assistance to Member States to assist in the identification, freezing or seizure of such assets, as well as in their recovery and return, in accordance with the Convention, in particular chapter V thereof, and in this regard to continue to discuss innovative modalities to improve mutual legal assistance in order to speed up asset recovery proceedings and render them more successful, while also drawing on the experience and knowledge built through the implementation of the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative;

63. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to consider, where appropriate, making use of the non-binding Lausanne Guidelines for the Efficient Recovery of Stolen Assets and the supporting step-by-step guide, available online, in their practice and to continue to exchange practical experiences, with a view to keeping the step-by-step guide up to date, as well as enhancing effective approaches to asset recovery based on lessons learned from past cases, being mindful that the Lausanne process can provide an important platform in this regard,

64. *Notes with appreciation* the work of other initiatives in the field of asset recovery, such as the Arab Forum on Asset Recovery, and welcomes their efforts to enhance cooperation between requesting and requested States;

65. *Welcomes* the work of the International Anti-Corruption Academy, a centre of excellence for education, training and academic research in the anti-corruption field, including in the area of asset recovery, and looks forward to its continued efforts in this regard to promote the goals and implementation of the Convention;

66. *Recognizes* the efforts of the Group of 20 in countering corruption at both the global and the national levels, takes note with appreciation of the anti-corruption initiatives outlined in the communiqué of the Summit of the Group of 20, held in Hamburg, Germany, on 7 and 8 July 2017, and urges the Group of 20 to continue to engage other States Members of the United Nations and the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime in its work in an inclusive and transparent manner to ensure that initiatives of the Group of 20 complement or strengthen the work being undertaken by the United Nations system;

67. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing reporting obligations, to include in his report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session under the item on crime prevention and criminal justice an analytical section entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption", and also requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Assembly the report of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on its eighth session.

## RESOLUTION 73/191

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/590, para. 45)<sup>743</sup>

### 73/191. Special session of the General Assembly against corruption

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [54/205](#) of 22 December 1999, [55/61](#) of 4 December 2000, [55/188](#) of 20 December 2000, [56/186](#) of 21 December 2001 and [57/244](#) of 20 December 2002, and recalling also its resolutions [58/205](#) of 23 December 2003, [59/242](#) of 22 December 2004, [60/207](#) of 22 December 2005, [61/209](#) of 20 December 2006, [62/202](#) of 19 December 2007, [63/226](#) of 19 December 2008, [64/237](#) of 24 December 2009, [65/169](#) of 20 December 2010, [67/189](#) and [67/192](#) of 20 December 2012, [68/195](#) of 18 December 2013, [69/199](#) of 18 December 2014 and

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<sup>743</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belize, Benin, Botswana, Chile, Colombia, El Salvador, Georgia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Maldives, Mali, Mexico, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, United Republic of Tanzania and Uruguay.

71/208 of 19 December 2016, and all relevant Human Rights Council resolutions, including resolutions 23/9 of 13 June 2013,<sup>744</sup> 29/11 of 2 July 2015<sup>745</sup> and 35/25 of 23 June 2017,<sup>746</sup>

*Recalling also* the entry into force on 14 December 2005 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,<sup>747</sup> which is the most comprehensive and universal instrument on corruption, recognizing the need to continue to promote its ratification or accession thereto and its effective implementation, and acknowledging all relevant regional political declarations of Member States against corruption,

*Stressing* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>748</sup> addresses the need to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and concerned about the seriousness of the problems and threats to the stability and security of societies posed by corruption, which undermine the institutions and values of democracy, ethics and justice, and jeopardize sustainable development and the rule of law,

1. *Decides* to convene in the first half of 2021 a special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation;
2. *Also decides* that at that special session the General Assembly shall adopt a concise and action-oriented political declaration, agreed upon in advance by consensus through intergovernmental negotiations under the auspices of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption;
3. *Invites* the Conference of the States Parties to lead the preparatory process for the special session by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner;
4. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide substantive expertise and technical support;
5. *Decides* to conduct the special session and its preparatory process from within existing resources.

### RESOLUTION 73/192

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/591, para. 10)<sup>749</sup>

#### 73/192. International cooperation to address and counter the world drug problem

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem”,<sup>750</sup> in its entirety, and reiterating that the operational recommendations contained therein are integrated, indivisible, multidisciplinary and mutually reinforcing and are aimed at a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to addressing and countering the world drug problem,

<sup>744</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/68/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>745</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/70/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>746</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/72/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>747</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

<sup>748</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>749</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay and Viet Nam.

<sup>750</sup> Resolution S-30/1, annex.



*Reaffirming also* the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem<sup>751</sup> and the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,<sup>752</sup> and recalling the resolutions adopted at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly,<sup>753</sup>

*Recalling* other relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution [72/198](#) of 19 December 2017,

*Recalling also* all resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its sixty-first session,<sup>754</sup>

*Underscoring* that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,<sup>755</sup> the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,<sup>756</sup> the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988<sup>757</sup> and other relevant international instruments constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system,

*Welcoming* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>758</sup> and noting that efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to effectively address the world drug problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing,

*Reaffirming its commitment* to the goals and objectives of the three international drug control conventions, including concern about the health and welfare of humankind as well as the individual and public health-related, social and safety problems resulting from the abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, in particular among children and young people, and drug-related crime, and reaffirming its determination to prevent and treat the abuse of such substances and prevent and counter their illicit cultivation, production, manufacturing and trafficking,

*Reaffirming its unwavering commitment* to ensuring that all aspects of demand reduction and related measures, supply reduction and related measures, and international cooperation are addressed in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>759</sup> with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States,

*Recognizing* that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that should be addressed in a multilateral setting through effective and increased international cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing, balanced, scientific evidence-based and comprehensive approach,

*Reaffirming* the crucial role of Member States in developing an effective and comprehensive approach to addressing and countering the world drug problem,

*Reaffirming also* the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, reaffirming further the support and appreciation of the General Assembly for the efforts of the United Nations, in particular those of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the leading entity in the United Nations system for addressing and countering the world drug problem, and reaffirming the treaty-mandated roles of the International Narcotics Control Board and the World Health Organization,

*Recognizing* the role of the United Nations Development Programme and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, among other agencies, within their respective mandates,

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<sup>751</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>752</sup> *Ibid.*, 2014, *Supplement No. 8 (E/2014/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>753</sup> Resolutions [S-20/1](#), [S-20/2](#), [S-20/3](#) and [S-20/4 A–E](#).

<sup>754</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2018, Supplement No. 8 (E/2018/28)*, chap. I, sect. B.

<sup>755</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

<sup>756</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

<sup>757</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

<sup>758</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>759</sup> Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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*Recognizing also* that civil society, as well as the scientific community and academia, play an important role in addressing and countering the world drug problem, noting that affected populations and representatives of civil society entities, where appropriate, should be enabled to play a participatory role in the formulation, implementation and provision of relevant scientific evidence in support of, as appropriate, the evaluation of drug control policies and programmes, and recognizing the importance of cooperation with the private sector in this regard,

*Reaffirming* the determination of Member States to tackle the world drug problem and to actively promote a society free of drug abuse in order to help to ensure that all people can live in health, dignity and peace, with security and prosperity, and reaffirming also the determination of Member States to address public health, safety and social problems resulting from drug abuse,

*Reaffirming also* the need to address the key causes and consequences of the world drug problem, including those in the health, social, human rights, economic, justice, public security and law enforcement fields, in line with the principle of common and shared responsibility, and recognizing the value of comprehensive and balanced policy interventions, including those in the field of promotion of sustainable and viable livelihoods,

*Expressing its appreciation* for the results already achieved by the initiatives at the bilateral, regional and international levels, and recognizing that further positive results can be achieved with sustained and collective efforts through international cooperation in reducing the demand and supply of illicit drugs,

*Recognizing* that, while tangible progress has been achieved in some fields, the world drug problem continues to present challenges to the health, safety and well-being of all humanity, and resolving to reinforce national and international efforts and further increase international cooperation to face those challenges,

*Recognizing also*, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to addressing and countering the world drug problem, that appropriate emphasis should be placed on individuals, families, communities and society as a whole, with a view to promoting and protecting the health, safety and well-being of all humanity,

*Recognizing further* the need to enhance efforts to strengthen the prevention of drug abuse among children and youth, also in educational settings, including by promoting the exchange of experiences and good practices, as well as technical assistance, and welcoming Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 61/2 of 16 March 2018 on strengthening efforts to prevent drug abuse in educational settings,<sup>754</sup>

*Expressing deep concern* at the high price paid by society and by individuals and their families as a result of the world drug problem, and paying special tribute to those who have sacrificed their lives, in particular law enforcement and judicial personnel, and to the health-care and civil society personnel and volunteers who dedicate themselves to countering and addressing this phenomenon,

*Noting with concern* that the availability of internationally controlled drugs for medical and scientific purposes, including for the relief of pain and suffering, remains low to non-existent in many countries, and highlighting the need to enhance national efforts and international cooperation at all levels to address that situation by promoting measures to ensure their availability, affordability and accessibility for medical and scientific purposes, within the framework of national legal systems, while simultaneously preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking, in order to fulfil the aims and objectives of the three international drug control conventions,

*Reaffirming equally* that reducing drug abuse requires efforts to reduce demand, which must be demonstrated by sustained widespread demand reduction initiatives that are age- and gender-sensitive and integrate a comprehensive public health approach spanning the spectrum of prevention, education, early detection and intervention, treatment, care and related support services, recovery support and the rehabilitation and social reintegration of drug users, in full compliance with the three international drug control conventions,

*Welcoming* continued efforts to enhance coherence within the United Nations system at all levels,

*Reaffirming* the need to strengthen cooperation between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, in their efforts to support Member States in the implementation of international drug control treaties in accordance with applicable human rights obligations and to promote protection of and respect for human rights and the dignity of all individuals in the context of drug programmes, strategies and policies,

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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*Recognizing* that successfully addressing and countering the world drug problem requires close cooperation and coordination among domestic authorities at all levels, particularly in the health, education, justice and law enforcement sectors, taking into account their respective areas of competence under national legislation,

*Stressing* the importance of enhancing international cooperation in the identification and voluntary reporting of and response to new psychoactive substances and incidents involving such substances,

*Noting with grave concern* the increased abuse of certain drugs and the proliferation of new substances worldwide, which are a possible threat to public health and are not controlled under the three international drug control conventions,

*Noting with grave concern also* the increasing sophistication of the transnational criminal groups engaged in the illicit manufacture and distribution of amphetamine-type stimulants worldwide, as well as the proliferation and diversion of chemical precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

*Recognizing* the importance of appropriately mainstreaming gender and age perspectives into drug-related policies and programmes,

*Expressing concern* that aspects of the world drug problem associated with illicit drug production can cause serious harm to the environment, including deforestation, soil erosion and degradation, the loss of endemic species, contamination of the soil, groundwater and waterways, and the release of greenhouse gases,

*Reaffirming* that alternative development policies are an important component in enhancing development in States affected by, or in some cases at risk of, the illicit cultivation of crops used for illicit drug production and manufacture, and that they play an important role in national, regional and international development policies and in comprehensive policies of poverty reduction and cooperation,

*Reaffirming also* the commitment to addressing drug-related socioeconomic issues related to the illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and the illicit manufacture and production of and trafficking in drugs through the implementation of long-term, comprehensive and sustainable development-oriented and balanced drug control policies and programmes, including alternative development and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, which are part of sustainable crop control strategies,

*Reaffirming further* the need to mobilize adequate resources to address and counter the world drug problem, and calling for the enhancement of assistance to developing countries, upon request, in effectively implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and the operational recommendations contained in the annex to resolution [S-30/1](#) of 19 April 2016,

*Recognizing* that there are persistent, new and evolving challenges that should be addressed in conformity with the three international drug control conventions, which allow for sufficient flexibility for States parties to design and implement national drug policies according to their priorities and needs, consistent with the principle of common and shared responsibility and applicable international law,

*Encouraging* Member States to develop and strengthen, as appropriate, mechanisms of domestic coordination and timely and efficient information-sharing between authorities involved in identifying and countering drug trafficking, diversion of precursors and related money-laundering, to integrate financial investigations more thoroughly into interdiction operations so as to identify individuals and companies involved in such activities, and to encourage, in accordance with national legislation, cooperation with the private sector, including financial institutions, designated non-financial businesses and professions, as well as providers of money or value transfer services, to identify suspicious transactions, with a view to further investigating and disrupting the drug trafficking business model,

*Recalling* the adoption, by its resolution [64/182](#) of 18 December 2009, of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and its decision, in resolution [67/193](#) of 20 December 2012, to convene a special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem that would review the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments,

*Welcoming* the preparations by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for the ministerial segment of its sixty-second session, in March 2019,

1. *Recalls* the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, held at United Nations Headquarters from 19 to 21 April 2016, at which the Assembly reviewed the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,<sup>751</sup> including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments, takes note of the discussions held during the session, and reaffirms in its entirety the outcome document entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem”,<sup>750</sup>

2. *Emphasizes* that the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action<sup>752</sup> and the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem”, which thus represents the most recent consensus, represent the commitments made by the international community over the preceding decade to addressing and countering, in a balanced manner, the world drug problem, and recognizes that those documents are complementary and mutually reinforcing;

3. *Reiterates its call upon* Member States to take, in a timely manner, the measures necessary to implement the actions and attain the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, and to address the general challenges and priorities for action identified in the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

4. *Reaffirms* that addressing and countering the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility that must be addressed in a multilateral setting, that it requires an integrated and balanced approach and that it must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other provisions of international law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>759</sup> and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action<sup>760</sup> on human rights and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, for the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

5. *Reiterates* that the efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to effectively address and counter the world drug problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing, recognizes the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in contributing to the global follow-up and in supporting the thematic review of progress on the Goals related to its mandate, and in this regard encourages the Commission to continue to provide input to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, including by providing relevant data, as the implementation of the recommendations contained in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly may contribute to the attainment of the related Goals;

6. *Calls upon* Member States to engage in effective cooperation and practical action aimed at addressing and countering the world drug problem on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility;

7. *Encourages* Member States to enhance North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, in cooperation with the international development community and other key stakeholders, in order to effectively address and counter the world drug problem;

8. *Reiterates its commitment* to promoting the health, welfare and well-being of all individuals, families, communities and society as a whole and to facilitating healthy lifestyles through effective, comprehensive, scientific evidence-based demand reduction initiatives at all levels, covering, in accordance with national legislation and the three international drug control conventions, prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures, as well as initiatives and measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse;

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<sup>760</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

9. *Also reiterates its commitment* to protect the safety and assure the security of individuals, societies and communities by intensifying efforts to prevent and counter the illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as drug-related crime and violence, through, inter alia, more effective drug-related crime prevention and law enforcement measures, as well as by addressing links with other forms of organized crime, including money-laundering, corruption and other criminal activities, mindful of their social and economic causes and consequences;

10. *Underlines* the need for Member States to cooperate closely with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization, the International Narcotics Control Board and other international and regional organizations, as well as the scientific community, including academia, in contributing to the scientific assessment of drug demand and supply reduction policies, drug markets and drug-related crime;

11. *Recognizes* that transit States continue to face multifaceted challenges, and reaffirms the continuing need for cooperation and support, including the provision of technical assistance, to, inter alia, enhance their capacities to effectively address and counter the world drug problem, in conformity with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;<sup>757</sup>

12. *Urges* Member States to address the relevant socioeconomic factors that relate to the world drug problem through a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach that incorporates drug policies into a broader socioeconomic development agenda, in compliance with the three international drug control conventions;

13. *Invites* Member States to consider strengthening a development perspective as part of comprehensive, integrated and balanced national drug policies and programmes so as to tackle the related causes and consequences of the illicit cultivation, manufacture and production of and trafficking in drugs by, inter alia, addressing risk factors affecting individuals, communities and society, which may include a lack of services, infrastructure needs, drug-related violence, exclusion, marginalization and social disintegration, in order to contribute to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies;

14. *Encourages* the development of viable economic alternatives, particularly for communities affected by or at risk of illicit cultivation of drug crops and other illicit drug-related activities in urban and rural areas, including through comprehensive alternative development programmes, and to this end encourages Member States to consider development-oriented interventions, while ensuring that both men and women benefit equally from them, including through job opportunities, improved infrastructure and basic public services and, as appropriate, access and legal titles to land for farmers and local communities, which will also contribute to preventing, reducing or eliminating illicit cultivation and other drug-related activities;

15. *Emphasizes* the need to strengthen, including through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and, as appropriate, its subsidiary bodies, the regular exchange of information, good practices and lessons learned among national practitioners from different fields and at all levels to effectively implement an integrated and balanced approach to the world drug problem and its various aspects and the need to consider additional measures to further facilitate meaningful discussion among those practitioners;

16. *Reiterates its call* to mainstream a gender perspective into and ensure the involvement of women in all stages of the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of drug policies and programmes, to develop and disseminate gender-sensitive and age-appropriate measures that take into account the specific needs and circumstances faced by women and girls with regard to the world drug problem and, as States parties, implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;<sup>761</sup>

17. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to support Member States, upon request, in mainstreaming a gender perspective into their policies and programmes related to the world drug problem, and invites the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and other relevant United Nations entities, within their mandates, to cooperate with the Office in this regard;

18. *Urges* Member States to increase the availability, coverage and quality of scientific evidence-based prevention measures and tools that target relevant age and risk groups in multiple settings, reaching youth in school as well as out of school, among others, through drug abuse prevention programmes and public awareness-raising

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<sup>761</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

campaigns, including by using the Internet, social media and other online platforms, to develop and implement prevention curricula and early intervention programmes for use in the education system at all levels, as well as in vocational training, including in the workplace, and to enhance the capacity of teachers and other relevant professionals to provide or recommend counselling, prevention and care services;

19. *Encourages* Member States to identify and take advantage of opportunities to conduct collaborative research and continuously share the latest scientific research, taking into account the contributions of the national, regional and international scientific community, including academia, on the most effective demand and supply reduction strategies, and to develop improved best practices on interventions to reduce demand for drugs, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions and other drug policy commitments;

20. *Invites* Member States to consider enhancing cooperation among public health, education and law enforcement authorities when developing prevention initiatives;

21. *Urges* Member States, as part of their comprehensive drug demand reduction measures at the national level, to strengthen efforts, as appropriate, to prevent drug abuse in educational settings, in both the public and private sectors, including by providing children and youth with information regarding drug abuse and its harmful effects and consequences, as well as drug use prevention, counselling and skills, resilience and opportunities to choose healthy lifestyles, and to promote safe and drug-free environments in educational settings;

22. *Invites* Member States to promote and improve the systematic collection of information and gathering of evidence as well as the sharing, at the national and international levels, of reliable and comparable data on drug use and epidemiology, including on social, economic and other risk factors, to promote, as appropriate, through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Assembly, the use of internationally recognized standards, such as the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention, and the exchange of best practices, and to formulate effective drug use prevention strategies and programmes in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities;

23. *Also invites* Member States to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with information on best practices and programmes recently implemented, consistent with the three international drug control conventions, in order to assess recent developments and current and future challenges;

24. *Recognizes* drug dependence as a complex, multifactorial health disorder characterized by a chronic and relapsing nature, with social causes and consequences, that can be prevented and treated through, inter alia, effective scientific evidence-based drug treatment, care and rehabilitation programmes, including community-based programmes, and also recognizes the need to strengthen capacity for aftercare for and the rehabilitation, recovery and social reintegration of individuals with substance use disorders, including, as appropriate, through assistance for effective reintegration into the labour market and other support services;

25. *Encourages* Member States to promote the prevention and treatment of drug use disorders, using scientific evidence-based practices, such as those outlined in the International Standards for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders, that reflect respect for human rights and dignity, including the right to enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and well-being, promoting, as appropriate, within national and regional contexts, non-stigmatizing attitudes in the development and implementation of scientific evidence-based policies;

26. *Also encourages* Member States to promote the inclusion in national drug policies, in accordance with national legislation and as appropriate, of elements for the prevention and treatment of drug overdose, in particular opioid overdose, including the use of opioid receptor antagonists, such as naloxone, to reduce drug-related mortality;

27. *Invites* Member States to promote cooperation with and technical assistance to the States most affected by the transit of drugs in developing and implementing comprehensive and integrated policies to address, where appropriate, the impact of illicit drug trafficking on increasing drug use in such States, including by reinforcing national programmes aimed at prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation and social reintegration;

28. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board to continue to strengthen cooperation with the World Health Organization and other competent United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to strengthening health and social welfare measures in addressing the world drug problem, including through effective prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration, in cooperation, as appropriate, with civil society and the scientific community, and to keep the Commission on Narcotic Drugs appropriately updated;



29. *Recalls* the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization in February 2017, which will facilitate increased collaboration and coordination between these two entities, within their mandates, in advancing efforts to address and counter the world drug problem, and encourages the Office to continue to strengthen its collaboration with the World Health Organization and to explore, as appropriate, cooperation arrangements with other relevant United Nations agencies and entities and to keep the Commission on Narcotic Drugs appropriately updated;

30. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization to continue their collaboration to address and counter the world drug problem in accordance with their relevant mandates, and takes note of the input of the World Health Organization in addressing and countering the world drug problem from a public health dimension;

31. *Encourages* Member States to involve, as appropriate, policymakers, parliamentarians, educators, civil society, the scientific community, academia, target populations, individuals in recovery from substance use disorders and their peer groups, families and other co-dependent people, as well as the private sector, in the development of prevention programmes aimed at raising public awareness of the dangers and risks associated with drug abuse, and involve, inter alia, parents, care services providers, teachers, peer groups, health professionals, religious communities, community leaders, social workers, sports associations, media professionals and entertainment industries, as appropriate, in their implementation;

32. *Also encourages* Member States to consider alternatives to incarceration, conviction and punishment, where appropriate and in accordance with the three international drug control conventions, noting that, in appropriate cases of a minor nature, States may provide, as alternatives to conviction or punishment, measures such as education, rehabilitation or social reintegration, as well as, when the offender has a drug abuse disorder, treatment and aftercare, as well as support for recovery;

33. *Encourages* the development, adoption and implementation, with due regard for national, constitutional, legal and administrative systems, of alternative or additional measures with regard to conviction or punishment in cases of an appropriate nature, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions and taking into account, as appropriate, relevant United Nations standards and rules, such as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules);<sup>762</sup>

34. *Also encourages* the consideration of the specific needs and possible multiple vulnerabilities of women drug offenders when imprisoned, in line with the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules);<sup>763</sup>

35. *Invites* Member States to consider reviewing their drug sentencing policies and practices in order to facilitate collaboration between justice, education and public health authorities in the development and implementation of initiatives that utilize alternative measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature, subject to the legal frameworks of Member States;

36. *Emphasizes* the need to enhance the knowledge of policymakers and the capacity, as appropriate, of relevant national authorities on various aspects of the world drug problem in order to ensure that national drug policies, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach, fully respect all human rights and fundamental freedoms and protect the health, safety and well-being of individuals, families, vulnerable members of society, communities and society as a whole, and to that end encourages the cooperation of Member States with, and cooperation among, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, including those relevant to the above-mentioned issues, and relevant regional and international organizations, as well as with civil society and the private sector, as appropriate;

37. *Urges* Member States to ensure non-discriminatory access to health, care and social services in prevention, primary care and treatment programmes, including those offered to persons in prison or pretrial detention, which are to be on a level equal to those available in the community, and to ensure that women, including detained women, have access to adequate health services and counselling, including those particularly needed during pregnancy;

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<sup>762</sup> Resolution 45/110, annex.

<sup>763</sup> Resolution 65/229, annex.

38. *Encourages* Member States to promote effective supervision of drug treatment and rehabilitation facilities by competent domestic authorities so as to ensure adequate quality of drug treatment and rehabilitation services and prevent any possible acts of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, in accordance with domestic legislation and applicable international law;

39. *Calls upon* Member States to enhance access to treatment for drug use disorders for those who are incarcerated and promote effective oversight and encourage, as appropriate, self-assessments of confinement facilities, taking into consideration the United Nations standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, including the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),<sup>764</sup> implement, where appropriate, measures aimed at addressing and eliminating prison overcrowding and violence, and provide capacity-building to relevant national authorities;

40. *Encourages* Member States to promote proportionate national sentencing policies, practices and guidelines for drug-related offences, whereby the severity of penalties is proportionate to the gravity of offences and both mitigating and aggravating factors are taken into account, including the circumstances enumerated in article 3 of the 1988 Convention and other relevant and applicable international law, and in accordance with national legislation;

41. *Calls for* the promotion of bilateral, regional and international cooperation, including through intelligence-sharing and cross-border cooperation, aimed at addressing and countering the world drug problem more effectively, in particular by encouraging and supporting such cooperation by those States most directly affected by illicit crop cultivation and the illicit production, manufacture, transit, trafficking, distribution and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

42. *Encourages* Member States to develop and implement, as appropriate, comprehensive policies and programmes that, by fostering social and sustainable development, are aimed at the prevention of crime and violence and that address the multiple factors that contribute to marginalization, crime and victimization, in close cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including civil society, and based on scientific evidence and taking into account good practices;

43. *Reaffirms* the need for Member States to review and, if necessary, strengthen coordinated measures, enhance capacity-building to counter money-laundering arising from drug trafficking and improve legal cooperation, including judicial cooperation, where appropriate, at the national, regional and international levels, to dismantle organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking, in order to provide for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of the perpetrators of such crimes;

44. *Underlines* the need to strengthen regional, subregional and international cooperation in criminal matters, as appropriate, including judicial cooperation in the areas of, inter alia, extradition, mutual legal assistance and transfer of proceedings, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions and other international legal instruments and national legislation, and to strive to provide appropriate resources to national competent authorities, including through the provision of targeted technical assistance to requesting countries;

45. *Affirms* the importance of an integrated approach in drug policies, including by strengthening partnerships between the public health, development, human rights, justice and law enforcement fields and by facilitating inter-agency cooperation and communication, where appropriate;

46. *Encourages* the promotion, where appropriate, in the framework of international cooperation, of the use of law enforcement techniques, consistent with national legislation and international law, including applicable human rights obligations, in order to ensure that drug traffickers are brought to justice and that major criminal organizations are disrupted and dismantled;

47. *Reiterates* the strong commitment of Member States to improving access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes by appropriately addressing existing barriers in this regard, including those related to legislation, regulatory systems, health-care systems, affordability, the training of health-care professionals, education, awareness-raising, estimates, assessment and reporting, benchmarks for consumption of substances under control and international cooperation and coordination, while concurrently preventing the diversion and abuse of and trafficking in such substances;

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<sup>764</sup> Resolution 70/175, annex.

48. *Recognizes* the effectiveness of law enforcement measures against organized criminal groups and individuals involved in drug-related crimes, and the need to place appropriate focus within the respective jurisdictions of Member States on those responsible for illicit activities of a larger scale or more serious nature;

49. *Recalls* the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: On the Fast Track to Accelerating the Fight against HIV and to Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030, adopted by the General Assembly on 8 June 2016,<sup>765</sup>

50. *Invites* relevant national authorities to consider, in accordance with their national legislation and the three international drug control conventions, including in national prevention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures and programmes, in the context of comprehensive and balanced drug demand reduction efforts, effective measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse, including appropriate medication-assisted therapy programmes, injecting equipment programmes as well as antiretroviral therapy and other relevant interventions that prevent the transmission of HIV, viral hepatitis and other blood-borne diseases associated with drug use, and to consider ensuring access to such interventions, including in treatment and outreach services, prisons and other custodial settings, and promoting in that regard the use, as appropriate, of the technical guide for countries to set targets for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care for injecting drug users, issued by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

51. *Urges* Member States and other donors to continue to provide bilateral and other funding for the global drug problem response, including in particular the HIV/AIDS response, including to the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, and to strive to ensure that such funding contributes to addressing the growing HIV/AIDS epidemic among people who inject drugs, and HIV/AIDS in prison settings, in the spirit of the pledge made in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>758</sup> to leave no one behind;

52. *Acknowledges* the continuing efforts made and the progress achieved in countering the world drug problem, and stresses the need to strengthen and intensify joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels to tackle the global challenges related to the world drug problem in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of enhanced and better-coordinated technical and financial assistance;

53. *Takes note with appreciation* of the 2017 report of the International Narcotics Control Board<sup>766</sup> and the supplementary reports thereto;

54. *Invites* Member States to strengthen, as appropriate, the proper functioning of national control systems and domestic assessment mechanisms and programmes, in cooperation with the International Narcotics Control Board, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations system agencies, to identify, analyse and remove impediments to the availability and accessibility of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, within appropriate control mechanisms, as required by the three international drug control conventions and taking into account the publication entitled “Ensuring Balance in National Policies on Controlled Substances: Guidance for Availability and Accessibility of Controlled Medicines”, and, for that purpose, to consider the provision of technical and financial assistance, upon request, to developing countries;

55. *Urges* all Member States to enact comprehensive measures aimed at stemming the abuse, diversion and misuse of prescription drugs, in particular through the establishment of awareness-raising initiatives targeting the general public and health-care providers;

56. *Recognizes* that it is necessary for Member States, under the three international drug control conventions and the fundamental principles of their domestic legal systems and national legislation, to consider, where appropriate:

(a) Regularly reviewing and assessing their drug control policies, ensuring that they are effective, comprehensive, balanced and aimed at promoting the health and well-being of individuals, families, communities and society as a whole;

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<sup>765</sup> Resolution 70/266, annex.

<sup>766</sup> International Narcotics Control Board, document E/INCB/2017/1.

(b) Providing, as appropriate, comprehensive, integrated drug demand reduction programmes, based on scientific evidence and covering a range of measures, including primary prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation, social reintegration and measures aimed at minimizing the negative public health and social impact of drug abuse, aimed at promoting health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities and reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole;

57. *Calls upon* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board, the World Health Organization and other United Nations entities with pertinent technical and operational expertise, within their mandates, to continue to provide, upon request, advice and assistance to States that are reviewing and updating their drug policies, in compliance with the three international drug control conventions, taking into account their national priorities and needs through, among other things, the promotion of the exchange of information and best practices on scientific evidence-based policies adopted by States;

58. *Calls upon* Member States to promote and strengthen the exchange of information and, as appropriate, drug-related criminal intelligence among law enforcement and border control agencies, including through the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime multilateral portals and regional information centres and networks, and to promote joint investigations and coordinate operations, in conformity with national legislation, and training programmes at all levels, in order to identify, disrupt and dismantle organized criminal groups operating transnationally that are involved in any activities related to the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the diversion of their precursors and related money-laundering;

59. *Reiterates* the commitment of Member States to share relevant information with, as appropriate, and strengthen the capacity of the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board and other relevant international and regional organizations to prioritize the review of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful new psychoactive substances and to facilitate informed scheduling decisions by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

60. *Encourages* Member States to fully support the efforts of the World Health Organization to review substances, within its mandate under the three international drug control conventions, particularly through its Expert Committee on Drug Dependence;

61. *Also encourages* Member States to enhance the capacity of law enforcement agencies to detect and identify new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, and promote cross-border cooperation and information-sharing to prevent their abuse and diversion, including through the use of existing International Narcotics Control Board and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime tools and projects;

62. *Further encourages* Member States to establish and strengthen partnerships and information exchange with industries, in particular with chemical and pharmaceutical industries and other relevant private sector entities, and encourage the use of the *Guidelines for a Voluntary Code of Practice for the Chemical Industry*, issued by the International Narcotics Control Board, and the Board's model memorandum of understanding between Governments and private sector partners, as and where appropriate, bearing in mind the important role that these industries can play in addressing and countering the world drug problem;

63. *Calls upon* Member States to commit themselves to implementing timely, scientific evidence-based control or regulatory measures within national legislative and administrative systems to tackle and manage the challenge of new psychoactive substances, and to consider the use of interim steps while substances are under review, such as provisional measures of control, or to make public health announcements, as well as share information and expertise on those measures;

64. *Invites* Member States to support existing research, collection and scientific analysis of data related to amphetamine-type stimulants through the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme and relevant International Narcotics Control Board tools, such as Project Prism, and strengthen cooperation at all levels in tackling synthetic opioids and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine;

65. *Also invites* Member States to promote the use, as appropriate, of relevant existing programmes, mechanisms and coordinated operations at all levels and continue the development and sharing of best practices and lessons learned among practitioners with regard to a balanced and integrated approach to the evolving threat of amphetamine-type stimulants;

66. *Calls upon* Member States to continue efforts to identify and monitor trends in the composition, production, prevalence and distribution of new psychoactive substances, as well as patterns of use and adverse consequences, and assess the risks to the health and safety of individuals and society as a whole and the potential uses of new psychoactive substances for medical and scientific purposes, and on that basis to develop and strengthen domestic and national legislative, regulatory, administrative and operational responses and practices by domestic and national legislative, law enforcement, judiciary, social and welfare, educational and health authorities;

67. *Invites* Member States to target the illicit cultivation of crops used for the illicit production and manufacture of drugs and address related factors by implementing comprehensive strategies aimed at alleviating poverty and strengthening the rule of law, accountable, effective and inclusive institutions and public services and institutional frameworks, as appropriate, and by promoting sustainable development aimed at enhancing the welfare of the affected and vulnerable population through licit alternatives;

68. *Encourages* the promotion of inclusive economic growth and support for initiatives that contribute to poverty eradication and the sustainability of social and economic development, and encourages Member States to develop measures for rural development, improving infrastructure and social inclusion and protection, addressing the consequences of illicit crop cultivation and the manufacture and production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances on the environment, with the incorporation and participation of local communities, and to consider taking voluntary measures to promote products stemming from alternative development, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, to gain access to markets, consistent with applicable multilateral trade rules and with national and international law, within the framework of comprehensive and balanced drug control strategies;

69. *Expresses concern* that the illicit cultivation of crops and illicit manufacture, distribution and trafficking remain serious challenges in addressing and countering the world drug problem, and recognizes the need for strengthening sustainable crop control strategies that may include, inter alia, alternative development, eradication and law enforcement measures, for the purpose of preventing and significantly and measurably reducing the illicit cultivation of crops, and the need to intensify joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of appropriate preventive tools and measures, enhanced and better-coordinated financial and technical assistance and action-oriented programmes, in order to tackle those challenges;

70. *Invites* Member States to consider elaborating and implementing comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, that support sustainable crop control strategies to prevent and significantly, durably and measurably reduce illicit crop cultivation and other illicit drug-related activities, ensuring the empowerment, ownership and responsibility of affected local communities, including farmers and their cooperatives, by taking into account the vulnerabilities and specific needs of communities affected by or at risk of illicit cultivation, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant international organizations, bearing in mind national and regional development policies and action plans, with a view to contributing to the building of peaceful, inclusive and just societies, consistent with the Sustainable Development Goals and in compliance with relevant and applicable international and national law;

71. *Also invites* Member States to strengthen subregional, regional and international cooperation to support comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, as an essential part of successful prevention and crop control strategies to increase the positive outcome of such programmes, especially in the areas affected by and at risk of illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, taking into account the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;<sup>767</sup>

72. *Urges* relevant international financial institutions, United Nations entities, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, as appropriate, to consider increasing their support, including through long-term and flexible funding, for the implementation of comprehensive and balanced development-oriented drug control programmes and viable economic alternatives, in particular alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, based on identified needs and national priorities, for areas and

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<sup>767</sup> Resolution 68/196, annex.

populations affected by or vulnerable to the illicit cultivation of drug crops, with a view to its prevention, reduction and elimination, and encourages States to the extent possible to stay strongly committed to financing such programmes;

73. *Urges* Member States to promote partnerships and innovative cooperation initiatives with the private sector, civil society and international financial institutions to create conditions more conducive to productive investments targeted at job creation in areas and among communities affected by or at risk of illicit drug cultivation, production, manufacturing, trafficking and other illicit drug-related activities in order to prevent, reduce or eliminate them, and share best practices, lessons learned, expertise and skills in this regard;

74. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that measures to prevent the illicit cultivation of and to eradicate plants containing narcotic and psychotropic substances respect fundamental human rights, take due account of traditional licit uses, where there is historical evidence of such use, and of the protection of the environment, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions, and also take into account, as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;<sup>768</sup>

75. *Reiterates its commitment* to strengthen regional and international cooperation to support sustainable alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, in close collaboration with all relevant stakeholders at the local, national and international levels, and to develop and share best practices towards implementing the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, taking into account all the lessons learned and good practices, in particular by countries with extensive expertise in alternative development;

76. *Welcomes* its resolution [72/197](#) of 19 December 2017, entitled “Promoting the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and related commitments on alternative development and regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented, balanced drug control policy addressing socioeconomic issues”;

77. *Urges* Member States to increase cooperation at all levels and enhance measures to prevent and significantly and measurably reduce or eliminate the illicit cultivation of opium poppy, coca bush and cannabis plant used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including through eradication, within the framework of sustainable crop control strategies and measures;

78. *Reiterates its commitment* to strengthen specialized, targeted, effective and sustainable technical assistance, including, where appropriate, adequate financial assistance, training, capacity-building, equipment and technological know-how, to requesting countries, including transit countries, through and in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as well as the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities and international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, so as to help Member States to effectively address the health, socioeconomic, human rights, justice and law enforcement aspects of the world drug problem;

79. *Encourages* Member States to fully implement international commitments on the promotion of the rule of law at the national and international levels, health and respect for human rights in their drug policies;

80. *Calls upon* Member States to respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and money-laundering, and, in some cases, terrorism, including money-laundering in connection with the financing of terrorism, by using an integrated, multidisciplinary approach, such as through promoting and supporting reliable data collection, research and, as appropriate, intelligence- and analysis-sharing to ensure effective policymaking and interventions;

81. *Invites* Member States to strengthen and utilize existing and relevant regional, as appropriate, subregional and international networks for the exchange of operational information to prevent and counter money-laundering, illicit financial flows and terrorist financing;

82. *Encourages* Member States to enhance national, regional, subregional, interregional and international capacity to prevent and counter money-laundering and illicit financial flows stemming from drug trafficking and related crimes, including, as appropriate, through the detection, investigation and prosecution of such activities, with

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<sup>768</sup> Resolution [61/295](#), annex.



a view to effectively addressing safe havens, and to identify and mitigate money-laundering risks linked to new technologies, as well as emerging money-laundering methods and techniques, by using, inter alia, existing United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime technical assistance tools;

83. *Also encourages* Member States to strengthen coordinated border management strategies, as well as the capacity of border control and law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies, including through technical assistance, upon request, including, and where appropriate, the provision of equipment and technology, along with necessary training and maintenance support, in order to prevent, monitor and counter trafficking in drugs, trafficking in precursors and other drug-related crimes, such as trafficking in firearms, illicit financial flows, smuggling of bulk cash and money-laundering;

84. *Further encourages* Member States to use existing subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms to combat all forms of drug-related crime, wherever committed, including, in some cases, violent crimes related to gangs, including by enhancing international cooperation to successfully counter and dismantle organized criminal groups, including those operating transnationally;

85. *Calls upon* Member States to also consider, when developing comprehensive policies to tackle the world drug problem, measures, programmes and actions that address the needs of those affected by drug-related violence and crime;

86. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its field offices in building capacity at the local level in the fight against transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, and encourages the Office to maintain an effective level of support for national and regional efforts in countering and addressing the world drug problem;

87. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to collaborate with relevant intergovernmental, international and regional organizations involved in addressing and countering the world drug problem, as appropriate, in order to share best practices and scientific standards and to maximize the benefits from their unique comparative advantage;

88. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in close cooperation with Member States and pertinent United Nations entities, intergovernmental and regional organizations and, when appropriate, the scientific community and civil society, to continue to support Member States, upon request, in strengthening their capacity to develop their reporting mechanisms, including by identifying gaps in the current drug statistics and by exploring possibilities to strengthen existing data-collection and analysis tools at the national level;

89. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in close cooperation with Member States, to reflect on possibilities for strengthening and streamlining its existing data-collection and analysis tools, including improving and strengthening the quality, response rate and effectiveness of the annual report questionnaire, and to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on possible ways to enhance these, for consideration by the Commission at its sixty-second session, and invites Member States to provide extrabudgetary resources for these purposes;

90. *Recalls* Statistical Commission decision 48/110 of 10 March 2017 on statistics on drugs and drug use,<sup>769</sup> encourages collaboration between the Statistical Commission and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, within their mandates, to exchange information on the latest data trends on the world drug problem, stresses the need for national statistical capacity-building to support Member States in improving the quality and availability of drug statistics and to respond effectively to data-collection requests from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and invites international and regional organizations to support Member States in this regard, upon their request;

91. *Invites* Member States to invest, where necessary and taking into account specific needs and available resources, in capacity-building and quality-enhancing activities for the collection and reporting of information, to participate in joint cooperation efforts organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and by other national, regional or international organizations and bodies, aimed at the exchange of technical knowledge of experts in the area of data collection, analysis and evaluation and of practical experience in the area of drug data, and to regularly report data and information relating to all aspects of the world drug problem to the Office through the annual report questionnaires, and invites the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central policymaking body of the United

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<sup>769</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 4 (E/2017/24)*, chap. I, sect. C.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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Nations system on drug-related matters, to strengthen the capacity of the Office to collect, analyse, use and disseminate accurate, reliable, objective and comparable data and to reflect such information in the *World Drug Report*;

92. *Encourages* Member States to promote data collection, research and the sharing of information, as well as the exchange of best practices on preventing and countering drug-related crime and on drug supply reduction measures and practices, in order to enhance the effectiveness of criminal justice responses, within the framework of applicable law;

93. *Invites* Member States to consider the need to review the set of national drug policy metrics and tools for the collection and analysis of accurate, reliable, disaggregated, comprehensive and comparable data to measure the effectiveness of programmes to address all relevant aspects of the world drug problem, including, as appropriate, as related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

94. *Reiterates* the commitment of Member States to improve the availability and quality of statistical information and analysis of illicit drug cultivation, production and manufacturing, drug trafficking, money-laundering and illicit financial flows, including for appropriate reflection in reports of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board, in order to better measure and evaluate the impact of such crimes and to further enhance the effectiveness of criminal justice responses in that regard;

95. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its efforts to support States in establishing, upon request, the operational frameworks essential for communication within and across national borders and to facilitate the exchange of information on and analysis of drug trafficking trends, with a view to increasing knowledge about the world drug problem at the national, regional and international levels, recognizes the importance of integrating laboratories and providing scientific support to drug control frameworks and of treating quality analytical data as a primary source of information worldwide, and urges coordination with other international entities, including the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);

96. *Requests* all Member States to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by widening its donor base, as appropriate, and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand, improve and strengthen, within its mandates, its operational and technical cooperation activities, including with a view to assisting Member States with the full implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly;

97. *Expresses concern* regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, emphasizes the need to provide the Office with adequate, predictable and stable resources and to ensure their cost-effective utilization, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report, within existing reporting obligations, on the financial situation of the Office and to continue to ensure that the Office has sufficient resources to carry out its mandates fully and effectively;

98. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to address the above-mentioned issues within the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office in order for the Office to fulfil its mandate effectively, efficiently and with the appropriate resources;

99. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of international drug control and as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the International Narcotics Control Board to continue to strengthen their work on the control of precursors and other chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

100. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen national and international action to address the emerging challenge of new psychoactive substances, including their adverse health consequences, and the evolving threat of amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, underscores the importance of enhancing information-sharing and early warning networks, developing appropriate national legislative, prevention and treatment models and supporting scientific evidence-based review and scheduling of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful substances, and notes the importance of preventing the diversion and misuse of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and precursors, while ensuring their availability for legitimate purposes;

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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101. *Urges* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, and States parties to implement, as a matter of priority, all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,<sup>770</sup> the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,<sup>771</sup> the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto<sup>772</sup> and the United Nations Convention against Corruption;<sup>773</sup>

102. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, in close collaboration with the International Narcotics Control Board, as appropriate, adequate support and technical assistance to Governments in all regions so as to enable them to implement and fully meet their obligations under conventions and give adequate follow-up to subsequent resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, including for the strengthening of regulatory authorities and controls, provision of information and fulfilment of reporting requirements, and urges donors to contribute to the Office for those purposes;

103. *Takes note* of the resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its sixty-first session<sup>774</sup> and of the *World Drug Report 2018*;

104. *Also takes note* of Human Rights Council resolution 37/42 of 23 March 2018,<sup>772</sup> entitled “Contribution to the implementation of the joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem with regard to human rights”;

105. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen international and regional cooperation and coordination to counter the threat to the international community caused by the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, especially those in the opioid group, as well as other aspects of the world drug problem, and to continue to take concerted measures within the framework of the Paris Pact<sup>773</sup> and other relevant regional and international initiatives and mechanisms, in order to strengthen cross-border cooperation and information exchange, with a view to countering drug trafficking, with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other international and regional organizations;

106. *Urges* Member States to continue to actively cooperate with the International Narcotics Control Board in the exercise of its mandate, and reiterates the need to ensure that an appropriate level of resources is made available to the Board to enable it to engage with Governments to effectively monitor compliance by States parties with the three international drug control conventions;

107. *Encourages* the continued contribution of the meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation, and in this regard welcomes the discussions conducted in Vienna from 27 to 30 June 2017, Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, from 17 to 21 September 2018, Bangkok from 2 to 5 October 2018, Santiago from 22 to 26 October 2018 and Baku from 19 to 23 November 2018;

108. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts to strengthen cooperation in addressing the world drug problem and to seek effectiveness and comprehensiveness in the strategies and policies undertaken by regional and subregional organizations and transregional initiatives;

109. *Reiterates its call upon* the relevant United Nations agencies and entities and other international organizations, and invites international financial institutions, including regional development banks, to mainstream efforts to address and counter the world drug problem into their programmes, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to maintain its leading role by providing relevant information and technical assistance;

110. *Reiterates its call upon* Member States to take the steps necessary to implement the operational recommendations set out in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, in close

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<sup>770</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

<sup>771</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

<sup>772</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/73/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>773</sup> See *S/2003/641*, annex.

partnership with the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations and civil society, the scientific community and academia, and to share with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, timely information on progress made in the implementation of the recommendations;

111. *Encourages* all relevant United Nations bodies and specialized agencies to identify operational recommendations in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly that fall within their area of specialization and to commence implementing the recommendations made in the outcome document that are within their existing mandates, in collaboration and cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board, keeping the Commission on Narcotic Drugs informed of programmes and progress made to achieve goals set out in the outcome document, and requests the Office to include, within its existing reporting obligations, a chapter regarding collaboration and coordination across the United Nations system in the global efforts to implement the recommendations adopted at the thirtieth special session;

112. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to further increase cooperation and collaboration with all relevant United Nations entities and international financial institutions, within their respective mandates, when assisting Member States in designing and implementing comprehensive, integrated and balanced national drug strategies, policies and programmes;

113. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to increase efforts to pursue joint initiatives at the policy and programmatic levels with other relevant United Nations agencies and entities, within their existing mandates, as well as regional organizations, and to update and report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on progress, including on joint initiatives, at its upcoming sessions;

114. *Welcomes* the follow-up to the implementation of the recommendations set out in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly through the intersessional process of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, encourages the Commission to continue to work on and support Member States in the implementation and sharing of best practices corresponding to the seven thematic areas of the outcome document, and invites the Commission to continue to examine how its subsidiary bodies can better contribute to the implementation of the outcome document, including by ensuring that the Commission is informed of regional and domestic concerns, developments and best practices arising from all stakeholders, including contributions from the scientific community, academia and civil society;

115. *Recalls* Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 60/1 of 17 March 2017<sup>774</sup> and welcomes Commission resolution 61/10 of 16 March 2018<sup>775</sup> on preparations for the ministerial segment to be held during the sixty-second session of the Commission, in 2019, in which the Commission decided, inter alia, to convene a ministerial segment during its sixty-second session to take stock of the implementation of the commitments made to jointly address and counter the world drug problem in the light of the 2019 target date set out in the Political Declaration, encourages the Commission to keep the General Assembly informed of developments in the process, and welcomes the briefings and updates provided by the Commission to Member States and all relevant stakeholders;

116. *Calls upon* all Member States to actively participate in the discussions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in preparation for the ministerial segment in 2019 to foster an in-depth exchange of information and expertise on efforts, achievements, challenges and best practices to address and counter the world drug problem, and encourages all other relevant stakeholders to make contributions in this regard;

117. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to continue to include in its report to the Economic and Social Council a section on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly;

118. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>775</sup> and requests that he submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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<sup>774</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 8 (E/2017/28)*, chap. I, sect. B.

<sup>775</sup> [A/73/135](#).

## RESOLUTION 73/262

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/587, para. 26),<sup>776</sup> by a recorded vote of 120 to 11, with 41 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Czechia, France, Germany, Israel, Japan, Marshall Islands, Nauru, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine

### **73/262. A global call for concrete action for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* all its previous resolutions on the comprehensive follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference,<sup>777</sup> in particular its resolutions 66/144 of 19 December 2011 and 67/155 of 20 December 2012, and in this regard underlining the imperative need for their full and effective implementation,

*Acknowledging* that 2018 marks the centenary of the life and legacy of Nelson Mandela, who dedicated his life to the struggle for freedom, human dignity, equality and justice, as well as the promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Recalling* the suffering of the victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and the need to honour their memory,

*Calling upon* States to honour the memory of victims of the historical injustices of slavery, the slave trade, including the transatlantic slave trade, colonialism and apartheid,

*Stressing* that the outcome of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance has the same status as the outcomes of all the major United Nations conferences, summits and special sessions in the human rights and social fields, and that the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action remains a solid basis and the only instructive outcome of the World Conference, which prescribes comprehensive measures for combating all the scourges of racism and adequate remedies for victims, and noting with concern the lack of effective implementation thereof,

*Underlining* the need to promote tolerance, inclusion and respect for diversity and the need to seek common ground among and within civilizations in order to address common challenges to humanity that threaten shared

<sup>776</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

<sup>777</sup> See A/CONF.189/12 and A/CONF.189/12/Corr.1, chap. I.

values, universal human rights and the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, through cooperation, partnership and inclusion,

*Alarmed* at the spread in many parts of the world of various racist extremist movements based on ideologies that seek to promote populist, nationalist, right-wing agendas and racial superiority, and stressing that these practices fuel racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

*Deploring* the ongoing and resurgent scourges of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in many regions of the world, often targeting migrants and refugees, as well as people of African descent, expressing concern that some political leaders and parties have supported such an environment, and in this context expressing its support for migrants and refugees in the context of the severe discrimination that they may face,

*Recalling* the three Decades for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination previously declared by the General Assembly, and regretting that the Programmes of Action for those Decades were not fully implemented and that their objectives have yet to be attained,

*Reiterating* that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and have the potential to contribute constructively to the development and well-being of their societies, and that any doctrine of racial superiority is scientifically false, morally condemnable, socially unjust and dangerous and must be rejected, together with theories that attempt to determine the existence of separate human races,

*Underlining* the intensity, magnitude and organized nature of slavery and the slave trade, including the transatlantic slave trade, and the associated historical injustices, as well as the untold suffering caused by colonialism and apartheid, and that Africans and people of African descent, Asians and people of Asian descent and indigenous peoples continue to be victims, and acknowledging that the ongoing effects must be remedied,

*Acknowledging* the efforts and initiatives undertaken by States to prohibit racial discrimination and racial segregation and to engender the full enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, as well as civil and political rights,

*Emphasizing* that, despite efforts in this regard, millions of human beings continue to be victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including their contemporary forms and manifestations, some of which manifest in violent forms,

*Welcoming* the efforts made by civil society in support of the follow-up mechanisms in the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,

*Recalling* the appointment of the five independent eminent experts by the Secretary-General on 16 June 2003, pursuant to General Assembly resolution [56/266](#) of 27 March 2002, with the mandate to follow up on the implementation of the provisions of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and to make appropriate recommendations thereon,

*Underlining* the primacy of the political will, international cooperation and adequate funding at the national, regional and international levels needed to address all forms and manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance for the successful implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,

*Recalling* its resolution [2142 \(XXI\)](#) of 26 October 1966, in which it proclaimed 21 March as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination,

*Recalling also* its resolution [62/122](#) of 17 December 2007, in which it designated 25 March as the annual International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade,

*Recalling further*, in the above context, the erection of the permanent memorial for the victims of slavery and the slave trade, including the transatlantic slave trade, the *Ark of Return*, based on the theme “Acknowledge the tragedy, consider the legacy, lest we forget”,

*Welcoming* the call upon all the former colonial Powers for reparations, consistent with paragraphs 157 and 158 of the Durban Programme of Action, to redress the historical injustices of slavery and the slave trade, including the transatlantic slave trade,

*Recognizing and affirming* that the global fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and all their abhorrent and contemporary forms and manifestations is a matter of priority for the international community,



## I

### International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

1. *Reaffirms* the paramount importance of universal adherence to and the full and effective implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,<sup>778</sup> adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution [2106 A \(XX\)](#) of 21 December 1965, in addressing the scourges of racism and racial discrimination;

2. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to accede to and/or ratify the Convention, and States parties to consider making the declaration under article 14 of the Convention, as well as to consider withdrawing reservations to article 4 of the Convention, as a matter of urgency, in view of the fact that the continued maintenance of reservations negates the essence of the instrument and defeats its objects and purposes;

3. *Underlines*, in the above context, that the provisions of the Convention do not respond effectively to contemporary manifestations of racial discrimination, in particular in relation to xenophobia and related intolerance, which is recognized as the rationale behind the convening of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in 2001;

4. *Takes note* of the acknowledgement by the Human Rights Council and its subsidiary structures of the existence of both procedural and substantive gaps in the Convention, which must be filled as a matter of urgency, necessity and priority;

5. *Expresses its concern* at the lack of progress in the elaboration of complementary standards to the Convention to fill existing gaps through the development of new normative standards aimed at combating all forms of contemporary and resurgent scourges of racism;

6. *Welcomes* Human Rights Council resolution [34/36](#) of 24 March 2017,<sup>779</sup> in which the Council requested the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination to ensure the commencement of the negotiations on the draft additional protocol to the Convention criminalizing acts of a racist and xenophobic nature during the tenth session of the Ad Hoc Committee;

7. *Requests* the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards to present a progress report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

## II

### International Decade for People of African Descent

8. *Welcomes* the proclamation of the International Decade for People of African Descent, as contained in its resolution [68/237](#) of 23 December 2013, and the celebratory launch of the Decade on 10 December 2014;

9. *Recalls* the draft programme of action for the International Decade for People of African Descent as an instructive framework in which all the initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life of people of African descent are anchored and which, if adopted, would complement the programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent, in which it recommended the establishment of a forum on people of African descent and giving consideration to the elaboration of a draft United Nations declaration on the promotion and full respect of human rights of people of African descent;

10. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent<sup>780</sup> and on a global call for concrete action for the total

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<sup>778</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

<sup>779</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/72/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>780</sup> [A/73/354](#).

elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;<sup>781</sup>

11. *Also takes note* of the report of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent,<sup>782</sup> invites the Human Rights Council, through the Chair of the Working Group, to continue to submit a report on the work of the Working Group to the General Assembly, and in this regard invites the Chair of the Working Group to engage in an interactive dialogue with the Assembly under the item entitled “Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance” at its seventy-fourth session;

12. *Decides* to establish a permanent forum on people of African descent, which will serve as a consultation mechanism for people of African descent and other interested stakeholders as a platform for improving the quality of life and livelihoods of people of African descent and to contribute to elaborating a United Nations declaration, which is the first step towards a legally binding instrument, on the promotion and full respect of human rights of people of African descent, and that the modalities, format and substantive and procedural aspects of the permanent forum will be concluded by Member States and observer States, with further consultations with people of African descent;

13. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to accelerate efforts and strengthen awareness-raising public information campaigns in support of the International Decade for People of African Descent through the use of social networks and digital media, including the wide distribution of user-friendly, concise and accessible versions of material in this regard;

14. *Requests* the Human Rights Council, in consultation with relevant mechanisms such as the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, to initiate, as a matter of necessity, priority and urgency, the preparatory process for the midterm review for the International Decade for People of African Descent and to prepare a programme in this regard and report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

### III

#### Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

15. *Notes with concern* the removal of the historic and landmark World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance of 2001 from among the 20 major achievements of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights since the adoption of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action in 1993;<sup>783</sup>

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the High Commissioner to provide the resources necessary for the effective fulfilment of the mandates of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, the group of independent eminent experts on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards, and in this regard to ensure the participation of experts in each session of those follow-up mechanisms in order to provide advice on the specific issues under discussion and assist the mechanisms in their deliberations and the adoption of action-oriented recommendations in relation to the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action;

### IV

#### Group of independent eminent experts on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

17. *Welcomes* the note by the Secretary-General on the appointment to fill the existing vacancies in the group of independent eminent experts,<sup>784</sup> and in this regard notes that the group held its fifth session in Geneva from 8 to 11 October 2018;

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<sup>781</sup> [A/73/371](#).

<sup>782</sup> See [A/73/228](#).

<sup>783</sup> [A/CONF.157/24 \(Part I\)](#), chap. III.

<sup>784</sup> [A/73/98](#).

V

**Trust fund for the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination**

18. *Recalls* the establishment by the Secretary-General, in 1973, of the trust fund for the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination as a funding mechanism that has been utilized for the implementation of the activities of the three Decades for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination declared by the General Assembly, and in this regard appreciates the fact that the trust fund has also been utilized for the subsequent programmes and operational activities transcending the three Decades;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include, in his report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, a section outlining the progress in the implementation of paragraph 18 of its resolution 68/151 of 18 December 2013 regarding the revitalization of the trust fund for the purpose of ensuring the successful implementation of the activities of the International Decade for People of African Descent and enhancing the effectiveness of the comprehensive follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;<sup>777</sup>

20. *Strongly appeals* to all Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals, as well as other donors in a position to do so, to contribute generously to the trust fund, and to that end requests the Secretary-General to continue to undertake appropriate contacts and initiatives to encourage contributions;

VI

**Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance**

21. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,<sup>785</sup> and encourages the Special Rapporteur, within her mandate, to continue to focus on the issues of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and incitement to hatred, which impede peaceful coexistence and harmony within societies, and to submit reports in this regard to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly;

22. *Reiterates its previous requests* to the Special Rapporteur to consider examining national models of mechanisms that measure racial equality and their value added in the eradication of racial discrimination and to report on such challenges, successes and best practices in her next report, and expresses concern at the lack of progress in this regard;

VII

**Follow-up and implementation activities**

23. *Requests* the Human Rights Council to consider, at its fortieth session, the question of developing a multi-year programme of activities to provide for the renewed and strengthened outreach activities needed to inform and mobilize the global public in support of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and to strengthen awareness of the contribution that they have made in the struggle against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in consultation with Member States, national human rights institutions, relevant civil society organizations and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;

24. *Also requests* the Human Rights Council to continue to pay attention to the situation regarding racial equality in the world, and in this regard requests the Council, through its Advisory Committee, to prepare a study on appropriate ways and means of assessing the situation, while identifying possible gaps and overlaps;

25. *Welcomes* the commemorative plenary meeting of the General Assembly held on 21 March 2018 to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, on the theme “Promoting tolerance, inclusion, unity and respect for diversity in the context of combating racial discrimination”;

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<sup>785</sup> A/73/305 and A/73/305/Corr.1.

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

27. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Human Rights Council to continue to convene annual commemorative meetings of the Assembly and the Council during the commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, with the appropriate focus and themes, and to hold a debate on the mitigation and countering of rising nationalist populism and extreme supremacist ideologies, with the participation of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and in this context encourages the participation of eminent personalities active in the struggle against racial discrimination, Member States and civil society organizations in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Assembly and the Council, respectively;

28. *Decides* to remain seized of this priority matter at its seventy-fourth session under the item entitled “Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance”.

### RESOLUTION 73/263

Adopted at the 65 plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.3, para. 88),<sup>786</sup> by a recorded vote of 65 to 27, with 70 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu

*Against:* Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Serbia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

*Abstaining:* Algeria, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Zambia

#### 73/263. Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>787</sup> international human rights treaties and other relevant international instruments and declarations,

*Recalling* the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949<sup>788</sup> and Additional Protocol I thereto, of 1977,<sup>789</sup> as applicable, as well as relevant customary international law,

<sup>786</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

<sup>787</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>788</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

<sup>789</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1125, No. 17512.

*Confirming* the primary responsibility of States to promote and protect human rights,

*Reaffirming* the responsibility of States to respect international law, including the principle that all States shall refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State and from acting in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations, recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, in which it approved the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming the principles contained therein,

*Recalling* its resolution 3314 (XXIX) of 14 December 1974,

*Recalling also* its resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014 on the territorial integrity of Ukraine, in which it affirmed its commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders and called upon all States, international organizations and specialized agencies not to recognize any alteration to the status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol and to refrain from any action or dealing that might be interpreted as recognizing any such altered status,

*Recalling further* its resolutions 71/205 of 19 December 2016 and 72/190 of 19 December 2017 on the situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, and relevant decisions of international organizations, specialized agencies and bodies within the United Nations system,

*Concerned* that the provisions of those resolutions and relevant decisions of international organizations, specialized agencies and bodies within the United Nations system have not been implemented by the Russian Federation,

*Condemning* the ongoing temporary occupation of part of the territory of Ukraine – the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol (hereinafter “Crimea”) – by the Russian Federation, and reaffirming the non-recognition of its annexation,

*Affirming* that the seizure of Crimea by force is illegal and a violation of international law, and affirming also that those territories must be returned,

*Supporting* the commitment by Ukraine to adhering to international law in its efforts to put an end to the Russian occupation of Crimea, and welcoming the commitments by Ukraine to protecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all its citizens,

*Reaffirming* the obligation of States to ensure that persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities may exercise fully and effectively all human rights and fundamental freedoms without any discrimination and in full equality before the law,

*Welcoming* the reports of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the human rights situation in Ukraine, of the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, and of the human rights assessment mission of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, in which they stated that violations and abuses of human rights continued to take place in Crimea and pointed to the sharp deterioration of the overall human rights situation,

*Welcoming also* the reports of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, submitted pursuant to resolutions 71/205<sup>790</sup> and 72/190,<sup>791</sup>

*Reaffirming its grave concern* that the human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine continues to be denied access to Crimea, despite its existing mandate, which covers the entire territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders,

*Condemning* the imposition and retroactive application of the legal system of the Russian Federation, and its negative impact on the human rights situation in Crimea, the imposition of automatic Russian citizenship on protected

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<sup>790</sup> See A/72/498.

<sup>791</sup> See A/73/404.

persons in Crimea, which is contrary to international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions and customary international law, and the deportation and regressive effects on the enjoyment of human rights of those who have rejected that citizenship,

*Gravely concerned* by consistent reports that the Russian law enforcement system uses involuntary placement in a psychiatric institution as a form of harassment against and punishment of political opponents and activists,

*Deeply concerned* that, since 2014, torture has reportedly been used by the Russian authorities to extract false confessions for politically motivated prosecutions, including in the case of Oleg Sentsov, a Ukrainian film-maker, and expressing deep concern about the ongoing arbitrary detentions and arrests by the Russian Federation of Ukrainian citizens, including Volodymyr Balukh and Emir-Usein Kuku, and in particular those on hunger strike,

*Condemning* the reported serious violations and abuses committed against residents of Crimea, in particular extrajudicial killings, abductions, enforced disappearances, politically motivated prosecutions, discrimination, harassment, intimidation, violence, including sexual violence, arbitrary detentions and arrests, torture and ill-treatment, in particular to extract confessions, and psychiatric internment, and their transfer or deportation from Crimea to the Russian Federation, as well as reported abuses of other fundamental freedoms, including the freedoms of expression, religion or belief and association and the right to peaceful assembly,

*Reaffirming its serious concern* at the decision of the so-called Supreme Court of Crimea of 26 April 2016 and the decision of the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation of 29 September 2016 to declare the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People, the self-governing body of the Crimean Tatars, to be an extremist organization and to ban its activities,

*Condemning* the ongoing pressure exerted upon religious minority communities, including through frequent police raids, threats against and persecution of those belonging to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Kyiv Patriarchate, the Protestant Church, mosques and Muslim religious schools, Greek Catholics, Roman Catholics and Jehovah's Witnesses, and condemning also the baseless prosecution of dozens of peaceful Muslims for allegedly belonging to Islamic organizations,

*Condemning also* the widespread misuse of counter-terrorism and anti-extremism laws to suppress dissent,

*Recalling* the order of the International Court of Justice of 19 April 2017 on provisional measures in the case concerning the *Application of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Ukraine v. Russian Federation)*,<sup>792</sup>

*Recalling also* the prohibition under the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the occupying Power to compel protected persons to serve in its armed or auxiliary forces, including through pressure or propaganda that is aimed at securing voluntary enlistment,

*Underlining* the importance of the measures to develop transparent, accessible, non-discriminatory and expeditious procedures and regulations governing access to Crimea for human rights defenders, journalists, media workers and lawyers, as well as the possibility to appeal, in accordance with national legislation and in conformity with all applicable international law,

*Condemning* the blocking by the Russian Federation of Ukrainian websites and television channels and the seizure of Ukrainian transmission frequencies in Crimea,

*Welcoming* the support provided by Ukraine to media outlets and civil society organizations that have fled Crimea, which improves the ability of the media and civil society to work independently and without interference,

*Welcoming also* the continued efforts of the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe and other international and regional organizations to support Ukraine in promoting, protecting and ensuring human rights, and expressing further concern over the lack of safe and unfettered access by established regional and international human rights monitoring mechanisms and human rights non-governmental organizations to Crimea,

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<sup>792</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 4 (A/72/4)*, chap. V, sect. A.



## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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1. *Deplores* the failure of the Russian Federation to comply with the repeated requests and demands of the General Assembly, as well as with the order of the International Court of Justice of 19 April 2017 on provisional measures in the case concerning the *Application of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Ukraine v. Russian Federation)*;<sup>792</sup>

2. *Strongly condemns* the continuing and total disregard by the Russian Federation for its obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and international law regarding its legal responsibility for the occupied territory, including the responsibility to respect Ukrainian law and the rights of all civilians;

3. *Condemns* all attempts by the Russian Federation to legitimize or normalize its attempted annexation of Crimea, including the automatic imposition of Russian citizenship and illegal election campaigns;

4. *Also condemns* violations, abuses, measures and practices of discrimination against the residents of the temporarily occupied Crimea, including Crimean Tatars, as well as Ukrainians and persons belonging to other ethnic and religious groups, by the Russian occupation authorities;

5. *Further condemns* the unlawful imposition of laws, jurisdiction and administration in the occupied Crimea by the Russian Federation, and demands that the Russian Federation respect obligations under international law with regard to respecting the laws in force in Crimea prior to occupation;

6. *Urges* the Russian Federation:

(a) To uphold all of its obligations under applicable international law as an occupying Power;

(b) To fully and immediately comply with the order of the International Court of Justice of 19 April 2017;

(c) To take all measures necessary to bring an immediate end to all violations and abuses against residents of Crimea, in particular reported discriminatory measures and practices, arbitrary detentions and arrests, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, revoke all discriminatory legislation and hold accountable those responsible for those violations and abuses;

(d) To respect the laws in force in Ukraine, repeal laws imposed in Crimea by the Russian Federation that allow for forced evictions and the confiscation of private property in Crimea, in violation of applicable international law, and respect the property rights of all former owners affected by previous confiscations;

(e) To immediately release and allow the return to Ukraine, without preconditions, of Ukrainian citizens who were unlawfully detained and judged without regard for the requirements of international law, as well as those transferred or deported across internationally recognized borders from Crimea to the Russian Federation;

(f) To monitor and accommodate the medical needs of all Ukrainian citizens unlawfully detained for the exercise of their human rights and fundamental freedoms, including political prisoners, in Crimea and the Russian Federation and allow the monitoring of those detainees' state of health and conditions of detention by independent international monitors and physicians from reputable international health organizations, including the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Committee of the Red Cross;

(g) To uphold the rights, in accordance with international law and until their release, of Ukrainian prisoners and detainees in Crimea and in the Russian Federation, including those on hunger strike, and encourages it to respect the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules);<sup>793</sup>

(h) To provide Ukrainian consular officials with information on Ukrainian citizens detained in the Russian Federation, ensure freedom of consular communication with, and consular access to, detained Ukrainian citizens, in accordance with the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,<sup>794</sup> to which the Russian Federation is a party, and allow Ukrainian officials, including the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, to visit all Ukrainian citizens, including political prisoners in Crimea and the Russian Federation;

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<sup>793</sup> Resolution 70/175, annex.

<sup>794</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

## V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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(i) To address the issue of impunity and ensure that those found to be responsible for violations and abuses are held accountable before an independent judiciary;

(j) To create and maintain a safe and enabling environment for journalists and media workers, human rights defenders and defence lawyers to perform their work independently and without undue interference in Crimea;

(k) To restore enjoyment of the rights of all individuals, without any discrimination based on origin or religion or belief, revoke the decisions that banned cultural and religious institutions, non-governmental organizations, human rights organizations and media outlets and restore enjoyment of the rights of individuals belonging to ethnic communities in Crimea, in particular Ukrainians and Crimean Tatars, including that to engage in cultural gatherings;

(l) To ensure that the right to freedom of opinion and expression and the rights to peaceful assembly and freedom of association can be exercised by all Crimean residents in any form, including single-person pickets, without any restrictions other than those permissible under international law, including international human rights law, and without discrimination on any grounds;

(m) To refrain from criminalizing the right to freedom of opinion and expression and the right to peaceful assembly and quash all penalties imposed on Crimean residents for expressing dissenting views, including regarding the status of Crimea;

(n) To ensure the availability of education in the Ukrainian and Crimean Tatar languages;

(o) To revoke immediately the decision declaring the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People an extremist organization and banning its activities, repeal the decision banning leaders of the Mejlis from entering Crimea and refrain from maintaining or imposing limitations on the ability of the Crimean Tatar community to conserve its representative institutions;

(p) To end the practice of compelling Crimean residents to serve in the armed or auxiliary forces of the Russian Federation, including through pressure or propaganda, and in particular ensure that Crimean residents are not compelled to participate in military operations of the Russian Federation;

(q) To end the practices of deporting Ukrainian citizens from Crimea for not taking Russian citizenship and of discriminating against Crimean residents for not possessing identity documents issued by the Russian Federation;

(r) To cooperate fully and immediately with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe on the situation of human rights in Crimea;

7. *Calls upon* the Russian Federation to address the substantive concerns and all recommendations highlighted in the reports of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine,<sup>790,791</sup> as well as previous relevant recommendations from 23 reports on the situation of human rights in Ukraine by the Office of the High Commissioner based on the work of the United Nations human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine established to prevent further deterioration of human rights in Crimea;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek ways and means, including through consultations with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and relevant regional organizations, to ensure safe and unfettered access to Crimea by established regional and international human rights monitoring mechanisms, in particular the human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine, to enable them to carry out their mandate;

9. *Urges* the Russian Federation to ensure the proper and unimpeded access of international human rights monitoring missions and human rights non-governmental organizations to Crimea, including all places where persons may be deprived of their liberty, recognizing that the international presence in Crimea is of paramount importance in preventing further deterioration of the situation;

10. *Supports* the efforts of Ukraine to maintain economic, financial, political, social, informational, cultural and other ties with its citizens in the occupied Crimea in order to facilitate their access to democratic processes, economic opportunities and objective information;

11. *Calls upon* all international organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, when referring to Crimea in their official documents, communications and publications, including with regard to statistical

data of the Russian Federation, to refer to “the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, temporarily occupied by the Russian Federation”, and encourages all States and other international organizations to do the same;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all steps necessary to ensure the full and effective coordination of all United Nations bodies with regard to the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide his good offices and pursue his discussions relating to Crimea, involving all relevant stakeholders and including the concerns addressed in the present resolution;

14. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including options and recommendations to improve its implementation;

15. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the matter at its seventy-fourth session under the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”.

### RESOLUTION 73/264

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/589/Add.3, para. 88),<sup>795</sup> by a recorded vote of 136 to 8, with 22 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia

*Against:* Belarus, Cambodia, China, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Philippines, Russian Federation, Viet Nam

*Abstaining:* Bhutan, Cameroon, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Equatorial Guinea, India, Japan, Kenya, Mongolia, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Serbia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

#### 73/264. Situation of human rights in Myanmar

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>796</sup> the International Covenants on Human Rights,<sup>797</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>798</sup> and other relevant international law and human rights law instruments,

<sup>795</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

<sup>796</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>797</sup> Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>798</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

*Noting* the importance of the role of regional organizations in efforts to achieve pacific settlement of local disputes, as stipulated in Chapter VIII of the Charter,

*Reaffirming* its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, the most recent of which being resolution 72/248 of 24 December 2017, and recalling the resolutions and decisions of the Human Rights Council, the most recent of which being resolutions 39/2 of 27 September 2018,<sup>799</sup> 37/32 of 23 March 2018<sup>800</sup> and S-27/1 of 5 December 2017,<sup>801</sup> and the statement by the President of the Security Council issued on 6 November 2017,<sup>802</sup>

*Welcoming* the appointment by the Secretary-General of a Special Envoy on Myanmar, the cooperation of the Government of Myanmar with the Special Envoy and the agreement on the opening of the office of the Special Envoy in Nay Pyi Taw, and commending the work of the Special Envoy since her appointment, including her recent visits to the region and her consultations with a range of interlocutors,

*Welcoming also* the mandate of the independent international fact-finding mission on Myanmar, established by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 34/22 of 24 March 2017,<sup>803</sup> and the decision by the Council in its resolution 39/2 to extend it,

*Welcoming further* the decision by the Human Rights Council, in its resolution 39/2, to establish an ongoing independent mechanism to collect, consolidate, preserve and analyse evidence of the most serious international crimes and violations of international law committed in Myanmar since 2011 and to prepare files in order to facilitate and expedite fair and independent criminal proceedings, in accordance with international law standards, in national, regional or international courts or tribunals that have, or may in the future have, jurisdiction over these crimes, in accordance with international law,

*Welcoming* the work of the independent international fact-finding mission on Myanmar, deeply regretting that the Government of Myanmar has not cooperated with the fact-finding mission, and urging the Government to grant it and other human rights mechanisms full, unrestricted access to all areas and interlocutors,

*Strongly regretting* the decision of the Government of Myanmar to discontinue cooperation with the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in Myanmar and to deny her access to Myanmar since January 2018, and calling upon the Government of Myanmar to resume its cooperation with the Special Rapporteur without delay,

*Welcoming* the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar,<sup>804</sup>

*Expressing grave concern* at continuing reports of serious human rights violations and abuses in Myanmar, in particular in Rakhine State, as well as in Kachin and northern Shan States,

*Continuing to underline* the need for the armed forces of Myanmar to take immediate steps to protect all persons within the country, including those belonging to the Rohingya community, by respecting international law, including human rights law, and ending the violence, and calling for urgent steps to ensure independent and impartial investigations into all human rights violations and abuses and that those displaced by violence are able to voluntarily return in safety and dignity to their places of origin in a sustainable manner,

*Reiterating its deep distress* at reports that unarmed Rohingya in Rakhine State are being subjected to the excessive use of force and violations of human rights by the military and security forces, including extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary killings, rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, arbitrary detention and the enforced disappearance of Rohingya civilians in Rakhine State, and at reports of large-scale destruction of homes and systematic evictions in northern Rakhine State, including the use of arson and violence, as well as the unlawful use of force by non-State actors,

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<sup>799</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/73/53/Add.1)*, chap. II.

<sup>800</sup> *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 53 (A/73/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>801</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. III.

<sup>802</sup> S/PRST/2017/22.

<sup>803</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/72/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>804</sup> A/73/332.

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*Reiterating its grave concern* that, in spite of the fact that Rohingya Muslims lived in Myanmar for generations prior to the independence of Myanmar, they were made stateless by the enactment of the 1982 Citizenship Law and were eventually disenfranchised, in 2015, from the electoral process,

*Reaffirming* that the denial of citizenship status and related rights to Rohingya Muslims and others, including voting rights, is a serious human rights concern,

*Noting with deep concern* that the targeted violence against the Rohingya Muslims and others in Rakhine State has forced over 723,000 people – most of them women and children – to flee to Bangladesh since 25 August 2017,

*Noting with deep concern also* the security, human rights and humanitarian situation in Rakhine, Kachin and Shan States and the continued serious violations and abuses of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and of persons belonging to other minorities, as well as the statelessness, disenfranchisement, economic dispossession, marginalization, deprivation of livelihood and restrictions on freedom of movement for persons belonging to the Rohingya community, including the confinement of approximately 120,000 people in camps for internally displaced persons, the majority of whom rely entirely on foreign aid,

*Noting* the stated commitment of the Government of Myanmar to implementing the recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State, regretting that over the past year the Government of Myanmar has not yet implemented the recommendations, and calling upon the Government of Myanmar to implement fully the recommendations of the Advisory Commission, including those regarding inclusive development, freedom of movement, human rights, security sector reform, humanitarian access and access by the media, and a pathway to full citizenship for all individuals without discrimination and regardless of ethnicity or religion, and to address the underlying causes of the situation in Rakhine State,

*Acknowledging with grave concern* statements made by the Secretary-General on 26 February 2018, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on 7 March 2018, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights on 6 March 2018 and the Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation on 27 February 2018 on the situation of human rights in Rakhine State, in which they referred to ethnic cleansing in Myanmar, and recalling the resolution adopted by the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation at its forty-fifth session on the establishment of an Organization of Islamic Cooperation ad hoc ministerial committee on accountability for human rights violations against the Rohingya and the recommendations made by the participants in the international consultation meeting on the Rohingya crisis, which was held in Ankara on 6 July 2018,

*Welcoming* the visit of the Security Council to Rohingya camps in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, from 28 April to 1 May 2018, and sharing its grave concern at the scale of the humanitarian crisis on the ground and its emphasis on finding a solution to the current situation of the Rohingya,

*Welcoming also* the visit of the Secretary-General to Rohingya camps in Cox's Bazar in July 2018, recalling his statement to the Security Council on 28 August 2018, in which he referred to the crisis in Rakhine State as "one of the world's worst humanitarian and human rights crises", and commending the Secretary-General's continued attention to this situation,

*Expressing concern* at the reports of continued intimidation and violence against the remaining Rohingya Muslim population and other minority groups in Myanmar,

*Recalling* the responsibility of States to comply with their relevant obligations, to prosecute those responsible for violations of international law, including international humanitarian law, international human rights law, international criminal law and international refugee law, as well as abuses of human rights law, and to provide an effective remedy to any person whose rights have been violated, with a view to ending impunity,

*Reiterating* the urgent need to ensure that all those responsible for crimes related to violations and abuses of international human rights law and international criminal law are held to account through credible and independent national, regional or international criminal justice mechanisms, while recalling the authority of the Security Council in this regard,

*Noting* the establishment of an independent commission of inquiry by the Government of Myanmar on 30 July 2018 as a step towards ensuring accountability for the human rights violations and abuses committed in Rakhine State, provided that the commission, unlike previous national investigative mechanisms, is able to work with independence, impartiality, transparency and objectivity,

*Noting also* the initial steps taken by the Government of Myanmar to improve the situation in Rakhine State for all communities, including the setting up of the Central Committee for the Implementation of Peace, Stability and Development in Rakhine State and of the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine, while underscoring the need for expedited implementation of key reforms, including access to citizenship and freedom of movement, to create the conditions necessary for refugees and other forcibly displaced persons to return to their places of origin voluntarily, safely and with dignity,

*Re-emphasizing* the urgent right of all refugees and displaced persons to return home in safety and dignity and in a voluntary and sustainable manner,

*Noting* the signing, on 6 June 2018, of a memorandum of understanding between Myanmar and the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on assistance in the repatriation process of displaced persons from Rakhine State,

*Noting also* the signing of bilateral instruments between Bangladesh and Myanmar and the subsequent formation of the joint working group, while underlining the need to create an environment conducive to the safe, voluntary, dignified and sustainable return of the displaced Rohingya, including assurances about the non-occurrence of violence, the rights related to citizenship and mobility and the accountability of perpetrators and justice for victims,

*Expressing deep concern* regarding the continuing departure of members of the remaining Rohingya population and persons belonging to other minorities to Bangladesh, and strongly urging the Government of Myanmar and the armed forces to lift the curfew order in Rakhine State, in particular to ensure freedom of movement and the safety and security of all persons without distinction of any kind, and to put an end to the extortion and intimidation of the Rohingya population,

1. *Expresses grave concern* at the findings of the independent international fact-finding mission on Myanmar<sup>805</sup> that there is sufficient information to warrant investigation and prosecution so that a competent court may determine liability for genocide in relation to the situation in Rakhine State, that crimes against humanity and war crimes have been committed in Kachin, Rakhine and Shan States, including murder, imprisonment, enforced disappearance, torture, rape, sexual slavery and other forms of sexual violence, persecution and enslavement, that children were subjected to and witnessed serious human rights violations, including killing, maiming and sexual violence, that there are reasonable grounds to conclude that serious crimes under international law have been committed that warrant criminal investigation and prosecution and that the military has consistently failed to respect international human rights law and international humanitarian law;

2. *Strongly condemns* all violations and abuses of human rights in Myanmar, as set out in the report of the fact-finding mission, including the widespread, systematic and gross human rights violations and abuses committed in Rakhine State, including the presence of elements of extermination and deportation and the systematic oppression and discrimination that the fact-finding mission concluded may amount to persecution and to the crime of apartheid, also strongly condemns the grossly disproportionate response of the military and the security forces, deplores the serious deterioration of the security, human rights and humanitarian situation and the exodus of more than 723,000 Rohingya Muslims and other minorities to Bangladesh and the subsequent depopulation of northern Rakhine State, and calls upon the Myanmar authorities to ensure that those responsible for violations of international law, including human rights violations and abuses, are held accountable and removed from positions of power;

3. *Calls for* a full and independent investigation of the human rights violations and abuses committed, including against the Rohingya Muslims and persons belonging to other minorities, as reported by various United Nations bodies, including the Human Rights Council, the fact-finding mission and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, to ensure that those responsible for such crimes are held accountable;

4. *Notes* the establishment of an independent commission of inquiry by the Government of Myanmar as a step towards ensuring accountability for investigating alleged violations and abuses of human rights in Rakhine State, provided that the commission, unlike preceding national investigative mechanisms, is able to work with independence, impartiality, transparency and objectivity in a credible way in line with international standards, and encourages the commission to seek support and expertise from the United Nations and the international community;

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<sup>805</sup> See [A/HRC/39/64](#).



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5. *Calls for* the expeditious entry into operation of the independent mechanism established by the Human Rights Council and steps to secure its effective functioning as soon as possible;

6. *Notes* the recommendation by the fact-finding mission on the conduct of a comprehensive, independent inquiry into the involvement of the United Nations in Myanmar since 2011, and encourages the United Nations system to follow up on the issues raised and to ensure that all engagement with Myanmar takes into account, and addresses, human rights concerns;

7. *Also notes* the holding of the third session of the 21st-Century Panglong Conference from 11 to 16 July 2018 and the progress made towards the principles of a future democratic federal union of Myanmar, while calling for further steps, including an immediate cessation of fighting and hostilities, of targeting civilians and of all violations and abuses of international human rights law and international humanitarian law in northern Myanmar and an inclusive and comprehensive national political dialogue ensuring the full, effective and meaningful participation of all ethnic groups, women and young people, and persons with disabilities, as well as civil society, with the objective of achieving lasting peace;

8. *Reiterates* the urgent call upon the Government of Myanmar:

(a) To take the necessary measures to address the spread of discrimination and prejudice and to combat the incitement of hatred against Rohingya Muslims and other persons belonging to minorities, including Kachin and Shan, by publicly condemning such acts and combating hate speech, while fully respecting international human rights law, as well as by promoting interfaith dialogue in cooperation with the international community and encouraging political and religious leaders in the country to work towards reconciliation among communities and national unity through dialogue;

(b) To expedite efforts to eliminate statelessness and the systematic and institutionalized discrimination against members of ethnic and religious minorities, in particular relating to the Rohingya Muslims, by, inter alia, reviewing the 1982 Citizenship Law, which has led to deprivation of human rights, by ensuring equal access to full citizenship through a transparent, voluntary and accessible procedure and to all civil and political rights, by allowing for self-identification, by amending or repealing all discriminatory legislation and policies, including discriminatory provisions of the set of “protection of race and religion laws” enacted in 2015 covering religious conversion, interfaith marriage, monogamy and population control, and by lifting all local orders restricting rights to freedom of movement and access to civil registration, health and education services and livelihoods;

(c) To dismantle the camps for internally displaced persons in Rakhine State, ensuring that the return and relocation of internally displaced persons is carried out in accordance with international standards and best practices, including as set forth in the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement;<sup>806</sup>

(d) To create the conditions necessary for the safe, voluntary, dignified and sustainable return of refugees, to proactively apprise the prospective returnees about developments in this regard and to formulate a time-bound road map for their implementation;

(e) To allow full and unhindered access for the delivery of humanitarian assistance, including gender-responsive assistance, by humanitarian actors, including the United Nations and its international partners, as well as by regional organizations, including but not limited to the Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, to affected persons and communities, without fear of reprisals, intimidation or attack, and in this regard urges the Government of Myanmar to implement the various international cooperation agreements that have not yet been fully implemented for the distribution of humanitarian aid to all affected areas, including Rakhine, Kachin and Shan States, without discrimination;

(f) To sustain the democratic transition of Myanmar by bringing all national institutions, including the military, under the democratically elected civilian Government;

(g) To ensure full protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons in Myanmar, including Rohingya Muslims and persons belonging to other minorities, in an equal and dignified manner in order to prevent further instability and insecurity, alleviate suffering, address the root causes of the situation and forge a viable, lasting and durable solution;

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<sup>806</sup> E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

(h) To fulfil its human rights obligations and commitments to protect the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, to create and maintain a safe and enabling environment for civil society and independent media and to ensure the safety, security and freedom of journalists, media workers, civil society activists and human rights defenders, including while they are engaged in their work;

9. *Underscores* the importance of providing protection and assistance specifically tailored to women and girls and to the victims of sexual violence;

10. *Reiterates its deep concern* at the continued plight of Rohingya refugees and forcibly displaced persons living in Bangladesh and in other countries, and appreciates the commitment by the Government of Bangladesh to provide temporary shelter, humanitarian assistance and protection to them;

11. *Expresses grave concern* at the potential retraumatization of survivors of human rights violations and abuses, particularly child survivors and sexual violence survivors, and calls upon all actors engaging in documentation work to follow international human rights standards and the “do no harm” principle for evidence-gathering in order to respect the dignity of survivors and to avoid retraumatization;

12. *Encourages* further cooperation between Myanmar and Bangladesh in order to expedite the establishment of conditions that will allow for the safe, sustainable and voluntary return of Rohingya refugees and forcibly displaced persons, with the full support and meaningful involvement of the international community, including the United Nations and its funds, programmes and agencies;

13. *Also encourages* the international community to (a) assist Bangladesh in providing humanitarian assistance to Rohingya refugees and forcibly displaced persons until such time as they are voluntarily repatriated to Myanmar in safety and dignity; and (b) assist Myanmar in the provision of humanitarian assistance to affected persons of all communities who have been internally displaced, including those in camps for internally displaced persons within Rakhine State;

14. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to continue to work with the Government of Bangladesh and the United Nations, including the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to allow the voluntary return of all refugees and forcibly displaced persons in conditions of safety and dignity to their places of origin in Myanmar, including through the implementation of the memorandum of understanding signed between the Government of Myanmar and the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of the High Commissioner;

15. *Recognizes with appreciation* the assistance and support of the international community, including regional organizations, in particular the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and the countries neighbouring Myanmar, and encourages support for the Government of Myanmar in the fulfilment of its international human rights obligations and commitments, the implementation of its democratic transition process, inclusive socioeconomic development and sustainable peace, as well as its national reconciliation process involving all relevant stakeholders;

16. *Emphasizes* the need for the Governments of Myanmar and Bangladesh, as well as the United Nations, to ensure the voluntariness of the repatriation process and to ensure that the concerns, specific needs and requests of Rohingya refugees and other forcibly displaced persons are taken into account;

17. *Urges* the international community to support the underfunded 2018 joint response plan for the Rohingya humanitarian crisis to ensure adequate resources for addressing the humanitarian crisis;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue to provide his good offices and to pursue his discussions relating to Myanmar, involving all relevant stakeholders, and to offer assistance to the Government of Myanmar;

(b) To extend the appointment of the Special Envoy on Myanmar and submit the report of the Special Envoy covering all relevant issues addressed in the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

(c) To provide all assistance necessary to enable the Special Envoy to effectively discharge her mandate and to brief Member States every six months, or as otherwise requested or as warranted by the situation on the ground;

(d) To identify ways in which the existing mandates can more effectively deliver in their respective areas of responsibility and can complement each other's work through enhanced coordination;

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(e) To call the continued attention of the Security Council to the situation in Myanmar with concrete recommendations for action towards resolving the humanitarian crisis, promoting the safe, dignified, voluntary and sustainable return of Rohingya refugees and forcibly displaced persons and ensuring accountability for those responsible for human rights violations;

19. *Requests* that the Special Envoy participate by way of interactive dialogue in the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly;

20. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter, inter alia, on the basis of the reports of the Secretary-General, the fact-finding mission, the ongoing international mechanism, the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council and the Special Envoy on Myanmar.



## VI. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee\*

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\* Unless otherwise stated, the draft resolutions recommended in the reports were submitted by the Chair or another officer of the Bureau of the Committee.

### RESOLUTION 73/4

Adopted at the 19th plenary meeting, on 12 October 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/421, para. 6)

#### **73/4. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations: requests under Article 19 of the Charter**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* chapter V of the report of the Committee on Contributions on its seventy-eighth session<sup>1</sup> and the letter dated 26 September 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly,<sup>2</sup>

*Reaffirming* the obligation of Member States under Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations to bear the expenses of the Organization as apportioned by the General Assembly,

1. *Reaffirms* its role in accordance with the provisions of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations and the advisory role of the Committee on Contributions in accordance with rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

2. *Also reaffirms* its resolution 54/237 C of 23 December 1999;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to bring to the attention of Member States the deadline specified in resolution 54/237 C, including through an early announcement in the *Journal of the United Nations* and through direct communication;

4. *Urges* all Member States requesting exemption under Article 19 of the Charter to submit as much information as possible in support of their requests and to consider submitting such information in advance of the deadline specified in resolution 54/237 C so as to enable the collation of any additional detailed information that may be necessary;

5. *Agrees* that the failure of the Comoros, Sao Tome and Principe and Somalia to pay the full minimum amount necessary to avoid the application of Article 19 of the Charter was due to conditions beyond their control;

6. *Decides* that the Comoros, Sao Tome and Principe and Somalia shall be permitted to vote in the General Assembly until the end of its seventy-third session.

### RESOLUTION 73/268

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/671, para. 7)

#### **73/268. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 52/212 B of 31 March 1998 and its decision 57/573 of 20 December 2002,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 72/8 A of 17 November 2017 and 72/8 B of 5 July 2018,

*Having considered*, for the period ended 31 December 2017, the financial reports and audited financial statements and the reports of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations,<sup>3</sup> the International Trade Centre,<sup>4</sup> the United

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<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/73/11).*

<sup>2</sup> A/73/367/Add.1.

<sup>3</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 5, vol. I (A/73/5 (Vol. I)).*

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. III (A/73/5 (Vol. III)).



Nations University,<sup>5</sup> the capital master plan,<sup>6</sup> the United Nations Development Programme,<sup>7</sup> the United Nations Capital Development Fund,<sup>8</sup> the United Nations Children's Fund,<sup>9</sup> the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,<sup>10</sup> the United Nations Institute for Training and Research,<sup>11</sup> the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,<sup>12</sup> the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme,<sup>13</sup> the United Nations Population Fund,<sup>14</sup> the United Nations Human Settlements Programme,<sup>15</sup> the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,<sup>16</sup> the United Nations Office for Project Services,<sup>17</sup> the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women),<sup>18</sup> the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991,<sup>19</sup> the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals,<sup>20</sup> and the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,<sup>21</sup> the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the concise summary of the principal findings and conclusions contained in the reports of the Board of Auditors for the annual financial period 2017,<sup>22</sup> the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its reports on the United Nations and on the capital master plan,<sup>23</sup> and on the United Nations funds and programmes<sup>24</sup> for the year ended 31 December 2017, the report of the Secretary of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board and the Representative of the Secretary-General for the investment of the assets of the Fund on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report for the year ended 31 December 2017 on the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund<sup>25</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,<sup>26</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the audit opinions and findings, and endorses the recommendations, contained in the reports of the Board of Auditors;<sup>3-21</sup>
2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;<sup>26</sup>
3. *Reaffirms* that the Board of Auditors shall be completely independent and solely responsible for the conduct of audits;
4. *Underlines* the crucial role of the Board of Auditors, and calls upon the Secretary-General to make use of the expertise of this oversight body in the reform implementation process, as appropriate, by following its relevant recommendations;

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., vol. IV (A/73/5 (Vol. IV)).

<sup>6</sup> Ibid., vol. V (A/73/5 (Vol. V)).

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. 5A* and corrigendum (A/73/5/Add.1 and A/73/5/Add.1/Corr.1).

<sup>8</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. 5B* (A/73/5/Add.2).

<sup>9</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. 5C* (A/73/5/Add.3).

<sup>10</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. 5D* (A/73/5/Add.4).

<sup>11</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. 5E* (A/73/5/Add.5).

<sup>12</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. 5F* (A/73/5/Add.6).

<sup>13</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. 5G* (A/73/5/Add.7).

<sup>14</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. 5H* (A/73/5/Add.8).

<sup>15</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. 5I* (A/73/5/Add.9).

<sup>16</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. 5J* (A/73/5/Add.10).

<sup>17</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. 5K* (A/73/5/Add.11).

<sup>18</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. 5L* (A/73/5/Add.12).

<sup>19</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. 5N* (A/73/5/Add.14).

<sup>20</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. 5O* (A/73/5/Add.15).

<sup>21</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. 5P* (A/73/5/Add.16).

<sup>22</sup> A/73/209 and A/73/209/Corr.1.

<sup>23</sup> A/73/353.

<sup>24</sup> A/73/353/Add.1.

<sup>25</sup> A/73/342.

<sup>26</sup> A/73/430.

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5. *Requests* the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals to closely monitor the progress of the six pending staff cases of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia to ensure that they are resolved promptly, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon in the context of his next report on the implementation by the Mechanism of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;
6. *Decides* to consider further the reports of the Board of Auditors on the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia<sup>19</sup> and the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals<sup>20</sup> under the respective agenda items relating to the Tribunal and the Mechanism;
7. *Also decides* to consider further the report of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund<sup>21</sup> under the agenda item relating to the Pension Fund;
8. *Commends* the Board of Auditors for the continued high quality of its reports and the streamlined format thereof;
9. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its reports for the year ended 31 December 2017 on the United Nations and on the capital master plan,<sup>23</sup> and on the United Nations funds and programmes;<sup>24</sup>
10. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the funds and programmes of the United Nations to ensure full implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors and the related recommendations of the Advisory Committee in a prompt and timely manner, to continue to hold programme managers accountable for the non-implementation of recommendations and to effectively address the root causes of the problems highlighted by the Board;
11. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide in his reports on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors a full explanation for the delays in the implementation of the recommendations of the Board, in particular those recommendations not yet fully implemented that are two or more years old;
12. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to indicate in future reports an expected time frame for the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, as well as the priorities for their implementation and the office holders to be held accountable.

### RESOLUTION 73/269

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/667, para. 6)

#### 73/269. Programme planning

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 37/234 of 21 December 1982, 38/227 A of 20 December 1983, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 55/234 of 23 December 2000, 56/253 of 24 December 2001, 57/282 of 20 December 2002, 58/268 and 58/269 of 23 December 2003, 59/275 of 23 December 2004, 60/257 of 8 May 2006, 61/235 of 22 December 2006, 62/224 of 22 December 2007, 63/247 of 24 December 2008, 64/229 of 22 December 2009, 65/244 of 24 December 2010, 66/8 of 11 November 2011, 67/236 of 24 December 2012, 68/20 of 4 December 2013, 69/17 of 18 November 2014, 70/8 of 13 November 2015, 71/6 of 27 October 2016, 72/9 of 17 November 2017 and 72/266 A of 24 December 2017,

*Recalling also* the terms of reference of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, as outlined in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) of 14 May 1976,

*Recalling further* the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,<sup>27</sup> in accordance with which the relevant

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<sup>27</sup> ST/SGB/2018/3.

programmes and subprogrammes of the proposed strategic framework shall be reviewed by the relevant sectoral, functional and regional intergovernmental bodies, if possible during the regular cycle of their meetings,

*Having considered* the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its fifty-eighth session<sup>28</sup> and the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2016–2017,<sup>29</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as the main subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for planning, programming and coordination;

2. *Re-emphasizes* the role of the plenary and the Main Committees of the General Assembly in reviewing and taking action on the appropriate recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination relevant to their work, in accordance with regulation 4.10 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;<sup>27</sup>

3. *Stresses* that setting the priorities of the United Nations is the prerogative of the Member States, as reflected in legislative mandates;

4. *Also stresses* the need for Member States to participate fully in the budget preparation process, from its early stages and throughout the process;

5. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2016–2017,<sup>30</sup> on evaluation,<sup>31</sup> on the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2017,<sup>32</sup> on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development<sup>33</sup> and on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit,<sup>34</sup> contained in its report on the work of its fifty-eighth session, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the timely implementation of the above-mentioned recommendations.

## RESOLUTION 73/270

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/675, para. 6)

### 73/270. Pattern of conferences

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the pattern of conferences, including resolution 72/19 of 1 December 2017,

*Recalling also* its previous resolutions on multilingualism, in particular resolution 71/328 of 11 September 2017, reaffirming the provisions relating to conference services thereon, and recognizing that multilingualism, as a core value of the Organization, contributes to the achievement of the goals of the United Nations, as set out in Article 1 of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 42/207 C of 11 December 1987, in which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure the equal treatment of the official languages of the United Nations,

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on Conferences for 2018<sup>35</sup> and the relevant report of the Secretary-General,<sup>36</sup>

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<sup>28</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/73/16).*

<sup>29</sup> A/73/77.

<sup>30</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/73/16)*, chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>31</sup> *Ibid.*, sect. C.

<sup>32</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. III, sect. A.

<sup>33</sup> *Ibid.*, sect. B.

<sup>34</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. IV.

<sup>35</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 32 (A/73/32).*

<sup>36</sup> A/73/93.

*Having also considered* the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,<sup>37</sup>  
*Reaffirming* the role of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly in administrative and budgetary matters,  
*Recalling* its resolution 14 (I) of 13 February 1946 and the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as a subsidiary body of the General Assembly,

**I**  
**Calendar of conferences and meetings**

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Committee on Conferences for 2018;<sup>35</sup>
2. *Approves* the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2019, as submitted by the Committee on Conferences,<sup>38</sup> taking into account the observations of the Committee and subject to the provisions of the present resolution;
3. *Authorizes* the Committee on Conferences to make any adjustments to the revised calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2019 that may become necessary as a result of actions and decisions taken by the General Assembly at its seventy-third session;
4. *Recalls* paragraph 40 of its resolution [71/323](#) of 8 September 2017 and paragraph 40 of its resolution [72/313](#) of 17 September 2018 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly;
5. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Secretariat has taken into account the arrangements referred to in General Assembly resolutions on the pattern of conferences, including resolutions [53/208](#) A of 18 December 1998, [54/248](#) of 23 December 1999, [55/222](#) of 23 December 2000, [56/242](#) of 24 December 2001, [57/283](#) B of 15 April 2003, [58/250](#) of 23 December 2003, [59/265](#) of 23 December 2004, [60/236](#) A of 23 December 2005, [61/236](#) of 22 December 2006, [62/225](#) of 22 December 2007, [63/248](#) of 24 December 2008, [64/230](#) of 22 December 2009, [65/245](#) of 24 December 2010, [66/233](#) of 24 December 2011, [67/237](#) of 24 December 2012, [68/251](#) of 27 December 2013 and [72/19](#), concerning Orthodox Good Friday and the official holidays of Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha, and requests all intergovernmental bodies to observe those decisions when planning their meetings;
6. *Also notes with satisfaction* that the Secretariat has taken into account the arrangements referred to in relevant resolutions of the General Assembly regarding the pattern of conferences, including resolution [69/250](#) of 29 December 2014, concerning Yom Kippur, the Day of Vesak, Diwali, Gurpurab, Orthodox Christmas and Nowruz, and requests all relevant intergovernmental bodies to continue to observe the applicable decisions when planning their meetings;
7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that any modification to the calendar of conferences and meetings is implemented strictly in accordance with the mandate of the Committee on Conferences and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;
8. *Invites* Member States to include in new legislative mandates adequate information on the modalities for the organization of conferences or meetings;
9. *Recalls* rule 153 of its rules of procedure, and, for resolutions involving expenditure, requests the Secretary-General to include the modalities of conferences, taking into account the trends of similar meetings, with a view to mobilizing conference services and documentation in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible;
10. *Reaffirms* the need to address the issue of duplications and redundancies in conference servicing, and notes in this regard that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution [2018/30](#) of 24 July 2018, approved a streamlined list of bodies whose conferences and meetings should be included in future provisional calendars of conferences to be considered by the Council starting at its 2019 session;
11. *Expresses concern* regarding the recurring extension of the work of the Fifth Committee during the second part of the resumed session of the General Assembly and the impact of such an extension on the services provided by the Secretariat, including the availability of conference rooms and language services;

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<sup>37</sup> [A/73/458](#).

<sup>38</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 32 (A/73/32)*, annex II.

## II

### Utilization of conference-servicing resources

12. *Reaffirms* the practice that, in the use of conference rooms, priority must be given to meetings of Member States;
13. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and Member States to adhere to the guidelines and procedures contained in the administrative instruction for the authorization of the use of United Nations premises for meetings, conferences, special events and exhibits;<sup>39</sup>
14. *Emphasizes* that such meetings, conferences, special events and exhibits must be consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations;
15. *Notes* that the overall utilization factor for all calendar bodies at the four main duty stations was 81 per cent in 2017 and 80 per cent in 2016, 2015 and 2014, and thus met the established benchmark of 80 per cent;
16. *Urges* those intergovernmental bodies whose average utilization factor has for the past six years been below the benchmark of 80 per cent to take that factor into account when planning their future sessions in order to achieve that benchmark;
17. *Reiterates its request* to intergovernmental bodies to review their meeting entitlements and to plan and adjust their programmes of work on the basis of their actual utilization of conference-servicing resources in order to improve their efficient use of conference services;
18. *Urges* the secretariats and bureaux of bodies that underutilize their conference-servicing resources to work more closely with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat and to consider changes to their programmes of work, as appropriate, including adjustments based on previous patterns of recurring agenda items, with a view to making improvements in their utilization factors;
19. *Recognizes* that late starts and unplanned early endings seriously affect the utilization factor of those bodies, invites the secretariats and bureaux of the bodies to pay adequate attention in this regard, and welcomes their efforts to inform the Secretariat in a timely manner of any such changes in order to allow conference services to be smoothly redeployed to other meetings;
20. *Welcomes* the steps taken by those bodies that have adjusted their programmes of work in order to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources;
21. *Requests* the Committee on Conferences to consult those bodies that have consistently utilized less than the applicable benchmark of their allocated resources for the past six years, with a view to making appropriate recommendations in order to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources;
22. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General to increase the utilization of conference-servicing resources, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to enhance the efficiency of conference servicing and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;
23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consult Member States on initiatives that affect the utilization of conference services and conference facilities;
24. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to impress upon bodies entitled to meet “as required” the need to further improve the utilization of conference services, and further requests the Secretary-General to report on the provision of such services to those bodies to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;
25. *Recognizes* the importance of meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States for the smooth functioning of the sessions of intergovernmental bodies, requests the Secretary-General to ensure that, as far as possible, all requests for conference services for the meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States are met, and requests the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to inform the requesters as early as possible about the availability of conference services, including interpretation, as well as about any changes that might occur before the holding of meetings;

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<sup>39</sup> [ST/AI/416](#).

26. *Notes* the overall decrease in the percentage of meetings held by regional and other major groupings of Member States that were provided with interpretation services at the four main duty stations in 2017, and requests the Secretary-General to further employ innovative means to address the difficulties arising from the lack of interpretation services for such meetings and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

27. *Once again urges* intergovernmental bodies to spare no effort at the planning stage to take into account the meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States, to make provision for such meetings in their programmes of work and to notify the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, well in advance, of any cancellations so that unutilized conference-servicing resources may, to the extent possible, be reassigned to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States;

28. *Recognizes* the improvement in the rate of utilization of the conference centre of the Economic Commission for Africa and the ongoing efforts aimed at improving the conference facilities at the Commission;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide detailed information regarding the possible renovation work aimed at addressing the deteriorating conditions and the limited capacity of the conference services facility at the United Nations Office at Nairobi and to present that information to the General Assembly during the main part of its seventy-fourth session in the framework of the proposed programme budget;

30. *Recognizes* the proactive efforts of the Secretary-General to identify ways to enhance efficiency and effectiveness in conference services, commends the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management for its innovative approaches in providing technical secretariat support and in managing meetings and documents, and encourages the Department to continue its efforts to preserve the high quality of its services while achieving efficiencies;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts aimed at improving conference servicing at the four main duty stations, including by addressing or eliminating possible duplication, overlap and redundancy, and identifying innovative ideas, potential synergies and other cost-saving measures, without compromising quality or affecting the provision of services, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

32. *Re-emphasizes* the need to continue to improve all conference facilities, including the videoconferencing infrastructure, at all four main duty stations, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to report thereon no later than at the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly;

33. *Welcomes* the measures taken to ensure access to and use of conference services and conference facilities for persons with disabilities, including the establishment of the Accessibility Centre, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to address issues related to the accessibility of conference facilities as a matter of priority and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

34. *Also welcomes* the integrated global management rule as an efficient approach, where feasible, to servicing meetings away from duty stations, in this regard requests the Secretary-General to strengthen his efforts to realize further savings by rigorously applying the integrated global management rule to applicable meetings, without jeopardizing the quality of services, and to report thereon to the Committee on Conferences at its substantive session in 2019, and also requests the Secretary-General to continue to report on the financial savings achieved through the implementation of the integrated global management projects;

### III

#### **Enhancing integrated global management, leveraging technology and measuring the quality of conference services**

35. *Recalls* paragraph 24 of the report of the Secretary-General on the pattern of conferences,<sup>40</sup> also recalls that, in paragraph 81 of its resolution 56/253 of 24 December 2001, it requested the Secretary-General to ensure that conference services were managed in an integrated manner throughout all duty stations in the Organization, stresses again that the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management is responsible for the implementation of policy, the formulation of standards and guidelines, overseeing and coordinating United Nations conference

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<sup>40</sup> [A/70/122](#).



services and the overall management of resources under the relevant budget section, while the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi remain responsible and accountable for day-to-day operational activities, as indicated in section II.B, paragraph 7, of its resolution [57/283](#) B;

36. *Notes* the completion of the internal reviews concerning accountability mechanisms and the clear delineation of responsibility between the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management and the Directors-General of the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Nairobi and Vienna for conference management policies, operations and resource utilization, requests the Secretary-General to report on the outcome of the internal reviews to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, and in this regard recalls, *inter alia*, paragraph 36 of its resolution [72/19](#);

37. *Also notes* the initiatives undertaken in the context of integrated global management aimed at streamlining procedures, achieving economies of scale and improving the quality of conference services, and in this regard stresses the importance of ensuring the equal treatment of conference-servicing staff, as well as the principle of equal grade for equal work at the four main duty stations;

38. *Acknowledges* that the concept of integrated global management has been fully mainstreamed into all areas of conference services across the four main conference-servicing duty stations, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly and the Committee on Conferences apprised of progress made in ensuring integrated global management and to provide accurate and up-to-date information on new initiatives falling under the purview of the Committee;

39. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made in the development and implementation of conference management software such as gData, gDoc, gMeets and gText, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that they are implemented as enterprise systems in the context of the Secretariat-wide information and communications technology strategy, as welcomed by the General Assembly in its resolution [69/262](#) of 29 December 2014, and to report on progress made regarding operations, maintenance and harmonization with existing systems, as appropriate;

40. *Underlines* that all the initiatives on leveraging technology, including those introduced on a trial basis, shall comply with the principle of parity among the official languages of the Organization, with a view to preserving and enhancing the quality and scope of the services provided by the Secretariat;

41. *Reiterates* that the satisfaction of Member States is a key performance indicator in conference management and conference services;

42. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that measures taken by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to seek the evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, as a key performance indicator of the Department, provide equal opportunities to Member States to present their evaluations in the six official languages of the United Nations and are in full compliance with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly, through the Committee on Conferences, on progress made in this regard;

43. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore best practices and techniques in client satisfaction evaluations, to seek a larger rate of response to surveys on quality and to report regularly to the General Assembly on the results achieved;

44. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to seek the evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, taking into consideration comments and complaints raised by Member States either in writing or during meetings, and requests the Secretary-General to intensify his exploration of innovative ways to systematically capture and analyse feedback from Member States and Chairs and Secretaries of committees on the quality of conference services and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

45. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek evaluation of the quality of the conference services provided by the Secretariat through meetings held at least once a year, but not exceeding twice a year, guaranteeing that Member States are able to present their evaluations and seek information equally in any of the six official languages of the United Nations on any conference-related or language-specific matter;

#### IV

##### Matters related to documentation and publications

46. *Emphasizes* the paramount importance of the equality of the six official languages of the United Nations;
47. *Underlines* that all the initiatives on the evolution of working methods, including those introduced on a trial basis, shall comply with the principle of parity among the official languages of the Organization, with a view to preserving or enhancing the quality and scope of the services provided by the Secretariat;
48. *Emphasizes* the importance of multilingualism in the activities of the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure full parity among the six official languages in accordance with General Assembly resolution [71/328](#) and to report thereon to the Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;
49. *Also emphasizes* the importance of making use of all the official languages of the United Nations, ensuring their full and equitable treatment in all the activities of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the use of the five other official languages, and in this regard reaffirms its request that the Secretary-General ensure that the Department provide the placement and storage of all official records of public statements in all six official languages on the United Nations website;
50. *Welcomes* the appointment by the Secretary-General of the Coordinator for Multilingualism, who is responsible for the overall implementation of multilingualism Secretariat-wide, and calls upon all departments and offices within the Secretariat to fully support the work of the Coordinator in the implementation of the relevant mandates on multilingualism;
51. *Emphasizes* that multilingualism, as a core value of the Organization, entails the active involvement and commitment of all stakeholders, including all United Nations duty stations and offices away from Headquarters;
52. *Welcomes* the submission by the Secretary-General, in his report on multilingualism,<sup>41</sup> of detailed terms of reference for the Coordinator for Multilingualism, as requested in resolution [70/9](#) of 13 November 2015, recalls its resolution [71/328](#), in which it endorsed the proposed terms of reference, requests that subsequent updates to the terms of reference be made available to all Member States and Secretariat entities, and welcomes the efforts made by the Coordinator in this regard;
53. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the consistent and effective implementation of the terms of reference for the Coordinator for Multilingualism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;
54. *Emphasizes* the role of Member States and their intergovernmental bodies in determining the policies on conference management;
55. *Stresses* that proposals to change such policies are to be approved by Member States in their relevant intergovernmental bodies;
56. *Also stresses* that matters related to conference management, including documentation, fall within the purview of the Fifth Committee;
57. *Reiterates* the importance of the timely issuance of documents for the Fifth Committee;
58. *Notes with concern* the recurring late issuance of documents for the Fifth Committee, recalls paragraph 29 of its resolution [70/247](#) of 23 December 2015, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to take actions for its effective implementation, taking into account the responsibilities of all stakeholders involved, and to report thereon in the context of his next report on the pattern of conferences;
59. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Secretariat, in particular the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, regarding the timely issuance of pre-session documentation for the Fifth Committee in the six official languages of the United Nations, and encourages continued efforts by all stakeholders in this regard;

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<sup>41</sup> [A/71/757](#).

## VI. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee

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60. *Encourages* the Chairs of the Fifth Committee and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to continue to promote cooperation between the two bodies in the sphere of documentation;

61. *Notes* that accurate, timely and consistent information provided by the Secretariat to the Fifth Committee during its informal consultations facilitates the decision-making process in the Committee;

62. *Reaffirms* its decision, in section IV of its resolution 64/230, that all reports adopted by the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review of the Human Rights Council shall be issued as documents in all official languages of the United Nations in a timely manner before their consideration by the Council, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 36/117 A of 10 December 1981, 51/211 A to E of 18 December 1996, 52/214 of 22 December 1997, 53/208 A to E of 18 December 1998 and 59/265, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the support necessary to that effect and to report to the Assembly thereon at its seventy-fourth session;

63. *Reiterates* paragraph 8 of the annex to its resolution 2 (I) of 1 February 1946 on the rules of procedure concerning languages, whereby all resolutions and other important documents shall be made available in all six official languages and, upon the request of any representative, any other document shall be made available in any or all of the official languages;

64. *Recalls* section III, paragraph 5, of its resolution 55/222, and reiterates with concern its request that the Secretary-General ensure strict respect for the rules concerning the simultaneous issuance of documents in all six official languages as regards both the distribution of printed copies and the posting of parliamentary documentation on the Official Document System and the United Nations website;

65. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take action on providing the timely and simultaneous issuance of documents in all six official languages;

66. *Notes* that workload-sharing has expanded to include text-processing in addition to translation and editing, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to seek ways to promote workload-sharing among the four main duty stations and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

67. *Emphasizes* that the major goals of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management are to provide high-quality documents in a timely manner in all official languages, in accordance with established regulations, as well as high-quality conference services to Member States at all headquarters duty stations, and to achieve those aims as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

68. *Also emphasizes* the importance of enhancing accountability within the Secretariat for the timely production and delivery of documents by ensuring that managers are fully informed of their responsibilities;

69. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to include in the senior managers' compacts the new standard managerial indicator related to the timely submission of official documentation for intergovernmental and expert bodies and to report thereon in future progress reports on accountability;

70. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in the relevant sections of future budget proposals, under executive direction and management, an expected accomplishment of the Secretariat related to the timely submission of documentation needed for meetings of relevant intergovernmental and expert bodies;

71. *Notes with satisfaction* that 96 per cent of the documents submitted on time and within the word limit were processed within four weeks by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management at Headquarters, and stresses the importance of all the duty stations taking measures to reach their targets in this regard;

72. *Reaffirms* its decision in section III, paragraph 9, of its resolution 59/265 that the issuance of documents in all six official languages on planning, budgetary and administrative matters requiring urgent consideration by the General Assembly shall be accorded priority;

73. *Reiterates* its request that the Secretary-General direct all departments of the Secretariat to include the following elements in their reports:

- (a) A summary of the report;
- (b) Consolidated conclusions, recommendations and other proposed actions;
- (c) Relevant background information;

and its request that all documents submitted to legislative organs, including the Committee on Conferences, by the Secretariat and intergovernmental and expert bodies for consideration and action have conclusions and recommendations in bold print;

74. *Notes with concern* that only 80 per cent of the author departments reached the compliance rate of 90 per cent in the timely submission of their reports to the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to enforce the slotting system more rigorously through a dedicated focus, such as the interdepartmental task force on documentation, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

75. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the interdepartmental task force on documentation, chaired by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, to facilitate the submission of documents by author departments of the Secretariat;

76. *Urges* author departments to fully adhere to deadlines for document submission, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report on concrete measures taken by author departments and the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to improve the predictability of document issuance and to ensure accountability for the meeting of deadlines in compliance with set guidelines;

77. *Reiterates its request* in paragraph 71 of its resolution 72/19 that the Secretary-General provide information on the waiver process for documents that are submitted over the word limit;

78. *Notes* that the Official Document System is the official digital repository of the United Nations, welcomes its modernization, including the introduction of a portable Official Document System, and its accessibility in all six official languages of the United Nations, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard;

79. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts aimed at improving the deployment of technology and facilities in conference servicing with a view to facilitating the decision-making process by intergovernmental bodies;

80. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to upload all important older United Nations documents on to the United Nations website in all six official languages on a priority basis so that those archives will also be available to Member States and the general public;

81. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to take all measures necessary to ensure that the digitization of key documents in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library and in the main duty stations is completed in a timely manner, as appropriate;

82. *Recalls* paragraph 78 of its resolution 72/19, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to entrust the Department of Public Information with presenting a proposal for the digitization of important older United Nations documents at all four main duty stations for consideration by the General Assembly through the Committee on Information no later than at the main part of its seventy-fourth session, outlining, inter alia, the definition of important older United Nations documents, as well as the scope and estimated quantity, cost and time frame;

83. *Expresses concern* that the anticipated lengthy digitization project may jeopardize the retention of historical knowledge and information in view of the delicate state and risk of breakage of many of the related documents;

84. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek additional voluntary contributions for the digitization of important older United Nations documents, including by broadening the donor base, and to report thereon in the context of the report requested in paragraph 82 above;

85. *Recalls* paragraph 81 of its resolution 72/19, notes the increased use of digital recordings by other intergovernmental bodies, including the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly in this regard;

86. *Stresses* that verbatim and summary records remain the only official records of the meetings of United Nations bodies;

87. *Reiterates* paragraph 83 of its resolution [72/19](#) related to the transition to digital recordings of meetings in the six official languages of the Organization as a cost-saving measure;

88. *Recalls* paragraph 5 of its resolution [49/221](#) B of 23 December 1994, and stresses that the timely issuance of verbatim records constitutes an important part of the services provided to Member States;

## V

### Matters related to language services

89. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure the highest quality of interpretation and translation services in all six official languages;

90. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Secretary-General to continue to improve the quality of the simultaneous interpretation and translation services provided, and requests the Secretary-General to take action in this regard;

91. *Underlines* that the translation of official documents of the Organization must be provided in all required languages and in due time, in full compliance with the rules of procedure of the respective legislative bodies;

92. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the quality of translation of documents into the six official languages, giving particular significance to the accuracy of translation;

93. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the terminology used in the translation and interpretation services reflects the latest linguistic norms and terminology of the official languages in order to ensure the highest quality;

94. *Notes* that the pool of language professionals at duty stations is uneven in terms of language combinations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to develop recruitment, subcontracting and outreach policies that take full account of those imbalances and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

95. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving the maximum quality of services, with full respect for the specificities of the six official languages and taking into account their respective workloads;

96. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take measures to ensure equal treatment of all six official languages and equal quality of service for Member States, while fully respecting the specificities of each official language and different levels of benefit from information technology advances for different languages, including by addressing workload inequities arising from staffing structures and specificities of language, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

97. *Reiterates* the need for the Secretary-General to ensure the compatibility of technologies used in all duty stations and to ensure that they are user-friendly in all official languages;

98. *Notes* the development of statistical machine translation systems (Tapta4UN, eLUNa), and requests the Secretary-General to report on updates, including cost-benefit analysis and quality preservation and control, to those systems to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

99. *Recalls* section VII of its resolution [69/274](#) A of 2 April 2015, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the implementation of flexible workplace strategies and other potential changes in logistical arrangements take into account the needs of language staff in order to continue to ensure that the services provided to Member States meet the highest standard of quality;

100. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to maintain and update the global terminology portal in order to ensure its availability to United Nations staff, Member States and the general public, with a view to achieving harmonization of the terminology used at all United Nations duty stations;

101. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, as the Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to continue to invite the heads of participating funds, programmes and specialized agencies of



the United Nations system to consider using official United Nations terminology and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

102. *Reaffirms* paragraph 96 of its resolution 72/19, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General, when recruiting temporary assistance in the language services, including through the use of international or local contracts, as appropriate, ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving maximum quality of their services, with full respect for the specificities of each of the six official languages and taking into account their respective workloads;

103. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts aimed at decreasing the vacancy rates for interpretation professionals at the United Nations Office at Nairobi and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

104. *Recalls* section IV of its resolution 69/274 A, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the working conditions of interpreters under review;

105. *Requests* the Secretary-General to fill vacancies in the language services, in particular in the translation services, in a timely manner and in full compliance with relevant provisions of the General Assembly resolutions governing recruitment for language staff, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

106. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to hold competitive examinations for the recruitment of language staff sufficiently in advance in order to fill current and future vacancies in the language services in a timely manner and to inform the General Assembly at its future sessions of efforts in this regard;

107. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to make every effort to enhance access to competitive examinations for applicants in all regions by bringing, to the extent possible, examination sites closer to their locations in order to allow the greatest number of potentially qualified candidates to participate in them, and to report to the General Assembly at its future sessions on progress made in this regard;

108. *Stresses* the need to ensure the highest possible quality of contractual and in-house translation, and requests the Secretary-General to report on measures to be taken in this regard;

109. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General provide, at all duty stations, adequate staff at the appropriate level, with a view to ensuring appropriate quality control for external translation, with due consideration of the principle of equal grade for equal work;

110. *Requests* the Secretary-General to apply common standards for the quality control of documents processed by external translators in all four duty stations in order to ensure high-quality translations in the six official languages of the United Nations, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its future sessions;

111. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the experience, lessons learned and best practices of the main duty stations in performing quality control of contractual and in-house translations, including on requirements relating to the number and appropriate level of staff needed to carry out this function, are shared among duty stations and regional commissions, as appropriate;

112. *Notes* that the Secretary-General has established globally standardized performance indicators and costing models aimed at a more cost-effective strategy for the in-house processing of documents, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their effective application at the four main duty stations;

113. *Notes with appreciation* the measures taken by the Secretary-General, in accordance with its resolutions, to address, among other things, the issue of the replacement of retiring staff in the language services, and requests the Secretary-General to maintain and intensify those efforts, including the strengthening of cooperation with institutions that train language specialists, in order to meet the needs in the six official languages of the United Nations;

114. *Notes* the need for energetic measures to avoid a disruptive shortage of applicants and a high turnover rate in the language career fields, particularly where rare language combinations are involved, and requests the Secretary-General to use appropriate means to improve the internship programme, including through partnerships with organizations that promote the official languages of the United Nations;

115. *Welcomes* the existing memorandums of understanding between the Organization and 22 universities as a way to strengthen the training of language professionals in order to improve the recruitment of qualified language



staff, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to assess the appropriate number of memorandums of understanding in order to fulfil the needs of the Organization;

116. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make further concerted efforts to promote outreach programmes, such as traineeships and internships, and to introduce innovative methods to increase awareness of the programmes, including through partnerships with Member States, relevant international organizations and language institutions in all regions, in particular to close the wide gap of qualified candidates from Africa and from the Latin American and Caribbean region, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

117. *Notes with appreciation* the positive experience with language traineeships in training young professionals and in attracting them to the United Nations, while enhancing the pool of qualified language professionals in language combinations that are critical for succession-planning purposes, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard;

118. *Notes* that the “African project” has the aim of establishing postgraduate university programmes in translation, conference interpreting and public service interpreting through centres of excellence on the African continent, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report on the achievements of this project;

119. *Also notes* the difficulties in identifying and retaining qualified language professionals and the need to replenish the pool of language experts at the main duty stations, particularly New York and Nairobi, in order to prevent further negative impact on the capacity of the Secretariat to provide services in the six official languages of the United Nations;

120. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Secretary-General to raise awareness among all Member States and the general public of career opportunities in conference services, including through the increased use of social media;

121. *Notes* the update provided by the Secretary-General on the pilot project related to the outposting to Vienna of translators from the French Translation Service in New York, and requests the Secretary-General to provide to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session further updates on this matter, including on the quality of services, a cost-benefit analysis, information on workload-sharing and lessons learned;

122. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve and strengthen his initiatives related to training and replenishing the language capacity of the Organization, including through the outreach programmes, in order to ensure sufficient capacity to address the interpretation and translation requirements of the Organization;

123. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to liaise with permanent missions to identify outreach opportunities with universities, educational institutions and language learning centres located worldwide in order to ensure the continued availability of high-quality professional language services in the six official languages of the United Nations;

124. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve and expand the list of universities having memorandums of understanding with the United Nations, ensuring the inclusion of universities, educational institutions and language learning centres located in all geographical regions, whenever possible;

125. *Requests* the Secretary-General to refrain from making any change of a substantive nature to agreed texts of both draft and adopted resolutions and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session.

### RESOLUTION 73/271

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/421/Add.1, para. 8)

#### 73/271. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions and decisions on the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations, including its resolutions 55/5 B and C of 23 December 2000, 57/4 B of 20 December 2002, 58/1 B of 23 December 2003, 61/237 of 22 December 2006, 64/248 of 24 December 2009, 67/238 of 24 December 2012 and 70/245 of 23 December 2015 and its decision 68/548 of 27 December 2013,

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*Reaffirming* Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations and rule 160 of its rules of procedure,

*Recalling* paragraphs 5 and 6 of its resolution [58/1 B](#),

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on Contributions on its seventy-eighth session<sup>42</sup> and the report of the Secretary-General on multi-year payment plans,<sup>43</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Committee on Contributions;<sup>42</sup>
2. *Reaffirms* that the determination of the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations shall remain the prerogative of the General Assembly;
3. *Also reaffirms* the fundamental principle that the expenses of the Organization shall be apportioned broadly according to capacity to pay;
4. *Further reaffirms* the obligation of all Member States to bear the expenses of the United Nations, as apportioned by the General Assembly, in conformity with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations;
5. *Reaffirms* that the Committee on Contributions as a technical body is required to prepare the scale of assessments strictly on the basis of reliable, verifiable and comparable data;
6. *Decides* that the scale of assessments for the period from 2019 to 2021 shall be based on the following elements and criteria:
  - (a) Estimates of gross national income;
  - (b) Average statistical base periods of three and six years;
  - (c) Conversion rates based on market exchange rates, except where that would cause excessive fluctuations and distortions in the income of some Member States, when price-adjusted rates of exchange or other appropriate conversion rates should be employed, taking due account of its resolution [46/221 B](#) of 20 December 1991;
  - (d) The debt-burden approach employed in the scale of assessments for the period from 2016 to 2018;
  - (e) A low per capita income adjustment of 80 per cent, with a threshold per capita income limit of the average per capita gross national income of all Member States for the statistical base periods;
  - (f) A minimum assessment rate of 0.001 per cent;
  - (g) A maximum assessment rate for the least developed countries of 0.01 per cent;
  - (h) A maximum assessment rate of 22 per cent;
7. *Recognizes* that the current methodology can be enhanced, bearing in mind the principle of capacity to pay;
8. *Requests* the Committee on Contributions, in accordance with its mandate and the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to review and make recommendations on the elements of the methodology of the scale of assessments in order to reflect the capacity of Member States to pay, and to report thereon to the Assembly by the main part of its seventy-sixth session;
9. *Encourages* Member States to submit national accounts data under the 2008 System of National Accounts on a timely basis;
10. *Supports* the efforts of the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat in supporting statistics at the national level and in providing support to countries and regional organizations to enhance coordination, advocacy and resources for the implementation of the 2008 System of National Accounts;

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<sup>42</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/73/11).*

<sup>43</sup> [A/73/76](#).

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11. *Resolves* that the scale of assessments for the contributions of Member States to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2019, 2020 and 2021 shall be as follows:

<i>Member State</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Member State</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Afghanistan	0.007	Colombia	0.288
Albania	0.008	Comoros	0.001
Algeria	0.138	Congo	0.006
Andorra	0.005	Costa Rica	0.062
Angola	0.010	Côte d'Ivoire	0.013
Antigua and Barbuda	0.002	Croatia	0.077
Argentina	0.915	Cuba	0.080
Armenia	0.007	Cyprus	0.036
Australia	2.210	Czechia	0.311
Austria	0.677	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	0.006
Azerbaijan	0.049	Democratic Republic of the Congo	0.010
Bahamas	0.018	Denmark	0.554
Bahrain	0.050	Djibouti	0.001
Bangladesh	0.010	Dominica	0.001
Barbados	0.007	Dominican Republic	0.053
Belarus	0.049	Ecuador	0.080
Belgium	0.821	Egypt	0.186
Belize	0.001	El Salvador	0.012
Benin	0.003	Equatorial Guinea	0.016
Bhutan	0.001	Eritrea	0.001
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	0.016	Estonia	0.039
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.012	Eswatini	0.002
Botswana	0.014	Ethiopia	0.010
Brazil	2.948	Fiji	0.003
Brunei Darussalam	0.025	Finland	0.421
Bulgaria	0.046	France	4.427
Burkina Faso	0.003	Gabon	0.015
Burundi	0.001	Gambia	0.001
Cabo Verde	0.001	Georgia	0.008
Cambodia	0.006	Germany	6.090
Cameroon	0.013	Ghana	0.015
Canada	2.734	Greece	0.366
Central African Republic	0.001	Grenada	0.001
Chad	0.004	Guatemala	0.036
Chile	0.407	Guinea	0.003
China	12.005	Guinea-Bissau	0.001

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<i>Member State</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Member State</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Guyana	0.002	Micronesia (Federated States of)	0.001
Haiti	0.003	Monaco	0.011
Honduras	0.009	Mongolia	0.005
Hungary	0.206	Montenegro	0.004
Iceland	0.028	Morocco	0.055
India	0.834	Mozambique	0.004
Indonesia	0.543	Myanmar	0.010
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	0.398	Namibia	0.009
Iraq	0.129	Nauru	0.001
Ireland	0.371	Nepal	0.007
Israel	0.490	Netherlands	1.356
Italy	3.307	New Zealand	0.291
Jamaica	0.008	Nicaragua	0.005
Japan	8.564	Niger	0.002
Jordan	0.021	Nigeria	0.250
Kazakhstan	0.178	Norway	0.754
Kenya	0.024	Oman	0.115
Kiribati	0.001	Pakistan	0.115
Kuwait	0.252	Palau	0.001
Kyrgyzstan	0.002	Panama	0.045
Lao People's Democratic Republic	0.005	Papua New Guinea	0.010
Latvia	0.047	Paraguay	0.016
Lebanon	0.047	Peru	0.152
Lesotho	0.001	Philippines	0.205
Liberia	0.001	Poland	0.802
Libya	0.030	Portugal	0.350
Liechtenstein	0.009	Qatar	0.282
Lithuania	0.071	Republic of Korea	2.267
Luxembourg	0.067	Republic of Moldova	0.003
Madagascar	0.004	Romania	0.198
Malawi	0.002	Russian Federation	2.405
Malaysia	0.341	Rwanda	0.003
Maldives	0.004	Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.001
Mali	0.004	Saint Lucia	0.001
Malta	0.017	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.001
Marshall Islands	0.001	Samoa	0.001
Mauritania	0.002	San Marino	0.002
Mauritius	0.011	Sao Tome and Principe	0.001
Mexico	1.292	Saudi Arabia	1.172

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<i>Member State</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Member State</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Senegal	0.007	Togo	0.002
Serbia	0.028	Tonga	0.001
Seychelles	0.002	Trinidad and Tobago	0.040
Sierra Leone	0.001	Tunisia	0.025
Singapore	0.485	Turkey	1.371
Slovakia	0.153	Turkmenistan	0.033
Slovenia	0.076	Tuvalu	0.001
Solomon Islands	0.001	Uganda	0.008
Somalia	0.001	Ukraine	0.057
South Africa	0.272	United Arab Emirates	0.616
South Sudan	0.006	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	4.567
Spain	2.146	United Republic of Tanzania	0.010
Sri Lanka	0.044	United States of America	22.000
Sudan	0.010	Uruguay	0.087
Suriname	0.005	Uzbekistan	0.032
Sweden	0.906	Vanuatu	0.001
Switzerland	1.151	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	0.728
Syrian Arab Republic	0.011	Viet Nam	0.077
Tajikistan	0.004	Yemen	0.010
Thailand	0.307	Zambia	0.009
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0.007	Zimbabwe	0.005
Timor-Leste	0.002	<b>Total</b>	<b>100.000</b>

12. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on multi-year payment plans<sup>43</sup> and the related conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on Contributions;<sup>42</sup>

13. *Reaffirms* paragraph 1 of its resolution 57/4 B;

14. *Urges* all Member States to pay their assessed contributions in full, on time and without imposing conditions;

15. *Urges* all Member States currently in arrears to settle those arrears promptly and in full;

16. *Encourages* Member States in arrears with their assessed contributions to the United Nations to consider submitting multi-year payment plans;

17. *Resolves* that:

(a) Notwithstanding the terms of financial regulation 3.10 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,<sup>44</sup> the Secretary-General shall be empowered to accept, at his discretion and after consultation with the Chair of the Committee on Contributions, a portion of the contributions of Member States for the calendar years 2019, 2020 and 2021 in currencies other than the United States dollar;

<sup>44</sup> [ST/SGB/2013/4](#).

(b) In accordance with financial regulation 3.9, the Holy See, which is not a member of the United Nations but which participates in certain of its activities, shall be called upon to contribute towards the expenses of the Organization for 2019, 2020 and 2021 on the basis of a notional assessment rate of 0.001 per cent, which represents the basis for the calculation of the flat annual fees to be charged to the Holy See in accordance with General Assembly resolution [44/197 B](#) of 21 December 1989;

(c) In accordance with financial regulation 3.9, the State of Palestine, which is not a member of the United Nations but which participates in certain of its activities, shall be called upon to contribute towards the expenses of the Organization for 2019, 2020 and 2021 on the basis of a notional assessment rate of 0.008 per cent, which represents the basis for the calculation of the flat annual fees to be charged to the State of Palestine in accordance with General Assembly resolution [44/197 B](#).

### RESOLUTION 73/272

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/668](#), para. 10)

#### **73/272. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [55/235](#) and [55/236](#) of 23 December 2000, [58/256](#) of 23 December 2003, [61/243](#) of 22 December 2006, [64/249](#) of 24 December 2009, [67/239](#) of 24 December 2012 and [70/246](#) of 23 December 2015,

*Reaffirming* the principles set out in its resolutions [1874 \(S-IV\)](#) of 27 June 1963, [3101 \(XXVIII\)](#) of 11 December 1973 and [55/235](#),

*Recalling* its request to the Secretary-General, in paragraph 15 of its resolution [55/235](#), to update the composition of the levels of contribution of Member States for peacekeeping operations described in the resolution on a triennial basis, in conjunction with the regular budget scale of assessment reviews, in accordance with the criteria established in the resolution, and to report thereon to the General Assembly,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolutions [55/235](#) and [55/236](#),<sup>45</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* that the determination of the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations shall remain the prerogative of the General Assembly;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General<sup>45</sup> and of the updated composition of levels of contribution for peacekeeping operations for the period from 2019 to 2021 contained therein;<sup>46</sup>

3. *Reaffirms* the following general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations:

(a) The financing of such operations is the collective responsibility of all States Members of the United Nations and, accordingly, the costs of peacekeeping operations are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations;

(b) In order to meet the expenditures caused by such operations, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures under the regular budget of the United Nations;

(c) Whereas the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions to peacekeeping operations, the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards peacekeeping operations involving heavy expenditures;

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<sup>45</sup> [A/73/350](#).

<sup>46</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.



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(d) The special responsibilities of the permanent members of the Security Council for the maintenance of peace and security should be borne in mind in connection with their contributions to the financing of peace and security operations;

(e) Where circumstances warrant, the General Assembly should give special consideration to the situation of any Member States which are victims of, and those which are otherwise involved in, the events or actions leading to a peacekeeping operation;

4. *Also reaffirms* that assessment rates for the financing of peacekeeping operations should be based on the scale of assessments for the regular budget of the United Nations, with an appropriate and transparent system of adjustments based on the levels of Member States, consistent with the principles outlined above;

5. *Recognizes* the need to reform the current methodology for apportioning the expenses of peacekeeping operations, and desires to address the issue in an effective and expeditious manner;

6. *Reaffirms* that the permanent members of the Security Council should form a separate level and that, consistent with their special responsibilities for the maintenance of peace and security, they should be assessed at a higher rate than for the regular budget;

7. *Also reaffirms* that all discounts resulting from adjustments to the regular budget assessment rates of Member States in levels C to J shall be borne on a pro rata basis by the permanent members of the Security Council;

8. *Further reaffirms* that the statistical data used for setting the rates of assessment for peacekeeping should be the same as the data used in preparing the regular budget scale of assessments, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

9. *Reaffirms* that the least developed countries should be placed in a separate level and receive the highest rate of discount available under the scale;

10. *Also reaffirms* the decision to create levels of discount to facilitate automatic, predictable movement between categories on the basis of the per capita gross national income of Member States;

11. *Decides* that, as from 1 January 2019, the rates of assessment for peacekeeping should be based on the 10 levels of contribution and parameters set forth in the table below:

Level	Criterion	Threshold in United States dollars (2019–2021)	Discount (percentage)
A	Permanent members of the Security Council	Not applicable	Premium
B	All Member States, except those covered below and level A	Not applicable	0
C	As listed in the annex to General Assembly resolution <a href="#">55/235</a>	Not applicable	7.5
D	Member States with per capita gross national income less than 2 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)	Under 20,952	20
E	Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.8 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)	Under 18,857	40
F	Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.6 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)	Under 16,762	60
G	Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.4 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)	Under 14,666	70
H	Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.2 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)	Under 12,571	80 (or 70 on a voluntary basis) <sup>a</sup>
I	Member States with per capita gross national income less than the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)	Under 10,476	80
J	Least developed countries (except level A and C contributors)	Not applicable	90

<sup>a</sup> Member States in level H\* have a discount of 70 per cent.

12. *Encourages* States Members of the United Nations at all levels to move up voluntarily in their level of contribution;
13. *Welcomes with appreciation* the commitment of certain Member States to undertake voluntarily to contribute to peacekeeping operations at a rate higher than required by their per capita income;
14. *Recalls* its decision that, at any time during the scale period, a Member State may make a voluntary commitment to contribute at a rate higher than its current rate by informing the General Assembly through the Secretary-General, and that the Assembly may take note of that decision;
15. *Welcomes* the voluntary commitment of Portugal to remain in level B;
16. *Reaffirms* that Member States will be assigned to the lowest level of contribution with the highest discount for which they are eligible, unless they indicate a decision to move to a higher level;
17. *Also reaffirms* that, for purposes of determining the eligibility of Member States for contribution in particular levels during the 2019–2021 scale period, the average per capita gross national income of all Member States will be 10,476 United States dollars and the per capita gross national income of Member States will be the average of the 2011 to 2016 figures;
18. *Further reaffirms* that transition periods of two years will apply to countries moving up by two levels, and that transition periods of three years will apply to countries moving up by three or more levels without prejudice to paragraph 16 above;
19. *Reaffirms* that transitions as specified above will occur in equal increments over the transition period as designated above;
20. *Endorses* the updated composition of levels to be applied in adjusting regular budget scale rates to establish Member States' rates of assessment for peacekeeping operations for the period from 2019 to 2021;<sup>47</sup>
21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to update the composition of the levels described above on a triennial basis, in conjunction with the regular budget scale of assessment reviews, in accordance with the criteria established above, and to report thereon to the General Assembly;
22. *Decides* to review the structure of the levels of the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations during its seventy-sixth session.

### RESOLUTION 73/273

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/676, para. 6)

#### 73/273. United Nations common system

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 44/198 of 21 December 1989, 51/216 of 18 December 1996, 52/216 of 22 December 1997, 53/209 of 18 December 1998, 55/223 of 23 December 2000, 56/244 of 24 December 2001, 57/285 of 20 December 2002, 58/251 of 23 December 2003, 59/268 of 23 December 2004, 60/248 of 23 December 2005, 61/239 of 22 December 2006, 62/227 of 22 December 2007, 63/251 of 24 December 2008, 64/231 of 22 December 2009, 65/248 of 24 December 2010, 66/235 A of 24 December 2011, 66/235 B of 21 June 2012, 67/257 of 12 April 2013, 68/253 of 27 December 2013, 69/251 of 29 December 2014, 70/244 of 23 December 2015, 71/264 of 23 December 2016 and 72/255 of 24 December 2017 and its decision 67/551 of 24 December 2012,

*Having considered* the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2018,<sup>48</sup>

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<sup>47</sup> A/73/350/Add.1, annex.

<sup>48</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 30 (A/73/30).

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*Reaffirming its commitment* to a single, unified United Nations common system as the cornerstone for the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the International Civil Service Commission;
2. *Takes note* of the report of the Commission for 2018;<sup>48</sup>
3. *Reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly in approving conditions of service and entitlements for all staff serving in the organizations of the United Nations common system, bearing in mind articles 10 and 11 of the statute of the Commission;<sup>49</sup>
4. *Recalls* articles 10 and 11 of the statute of the Commission, and reaffirms the central role of the Commission in regulating and coordinating conditions of service and entitlements for all staff serving in the organizations of the United Nations common system;
5. *Reminds* executive heads and governing bodies of the United Nations common system that failure to fully respect the decisions taken by the General Assembly on the Commission's recommendations could prejudice claims to enjoy the benefits of participation in the common system, including organizations' participation in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, as stated in article 3 (b) of the Fund's regulations;
6. *Notes with concern* that with regard to the mandatory age of separation for staff having joined the organizations prior to 1 January 2014, while many of the organizations have implemented the mandatory age of separation as approved, some organizations have decided to use different implementation dates;
7. *Reiterates its request* to the Commission to recommend appropriate measures that would deal with those organizations not in compliance with the Commission's decisions and recommendations and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;
8. *Expresses serious concern* at the decision of the World Intellectual Property Organization to pay an organizational performance bonus to all staff members, and urges organizations to fully and faithfully implement decisions of the General Assembly and the Commission in a timely manner;
9. *Reaffirms* paragraph 1 of section I.B of its resolution [72/255](#), in which it approved the principles and guidelines for performance appraisal and management for the recognition of different levels of performance, urges the organizations to abide by these principles and guidelines, and requests the Commission to report on their implementation to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;
10. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to ensure that decisions of the General Assembly are implemented in full and without undue delay across the common system;

### I

#### Conditions of service applicable to both categories of staff

##### A. Review of pensionable remuneration

*Approves*, with effect from 1 January 2019, the recommendations of the Commission contained in paragraph 47 of its report;

##### B. Framework for human resources management

*Recognizing* the importance of the organizations of the common system having a workforce that truly represents and benefits all the people served by those organizations,

1. *Welcomes* the work undertaken by the Commission regarding the updated human resources management framework and the decision of the Commission, contained in paragraph 76 of its report, to approve the inclusion of the workforce diversity component in the human resources management framework;

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<sup>49</sup> Resolution [3357 \(XXIX\)](#), annex.

2. *Requests* the Commission to continue to provide information to the General Assembly on the progress made by organizations of the United Nations common system in the implementation of existing gender policies and measures towards achieving the goal of 50/50 gender balance and strengthening geographical distribution, bearing in mind Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, within the common system, including at senior levels;

3. *Encourages* the organizations of the United Nations common system to regularly measure and monitor key workforce diversity metrics, such as geographical distribution and gender parity, and to report thereon to their governing bodies;

4. *Welcomes* efforts by the United Nations to improve accessibility of United Nations premises and conferences and to provide reasonable accommodation in the workplace, including for recruitment, and encourages organizations to continue to improve accessibility;

5. *Recalls* its resolution [66/229](#) of 24 December 2011, and encourages the Secretary-General to include the elements contained in the Secretary-General's bulletin on employment and accessibility for staff members with disabilities in the United Nations Secretariat<sup>50</sup> in the staff rules and regulations of the Organization;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consult with the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on ways to strengthen the protection and integration of staff with disabilities employed by the funds, programmes and specialized agencies and to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the shortcomings of current provisions and possible remedies;

## II

### Conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories

#### A. Base/floor salary scale

*Recalling* its resolution [44/198](#), by which it established a floor net salary level for staff in the Professional and higher categories by reference to the corresponding base net salary levels of officials in comparable positions serving at the base city of the comparator civil service (the United States federal civil service),

*Approves*, with effect from 1 January 2019, as recommended by the Commission in paragraph 83 of its report, the revised unified base/floor scale and updated pay protection points for staff in the Professional and higher categories, as contained in annex VI to that report;

#### B. Evolution of the margin and margin management around the desirable midpoint

*Recalling* section I.B of its resolution [51/216](#) and the standing mandate from the General Assembly, in which the Commission is requested to continue its review of the relationship between the net remuneration of the United Nations staff in the Professional and higher categories in New York and that of the comparator civil service (the United States federal civil service) employees in comparable positions in Washington, D.C. (referred to as "the margin"),

1. *Reaffirms* that the range of 110 to 120 for the margin between the net remuneration of officials in the Professional and higher categories of the United Nations in New York and officials in comparable positions in the comparator civil service should continue to apply, on the understanding that the margin would be maintained at a level around the desirable midpoint of 115 over a period of time;

2. *Notes* that the margin between net remuneration of the United Nations staff in grades P-1 to D-2 in New York and that of officials in comparable positions in the United States federal civil service in Washington, D.C., for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2018 is 113;

3. *Recalls* its decision contained in resolution [70/244](#) that, if the margin trigger levels of 113 or 117 are breached, the Commission should take appropriate action through the operation of the post adjustment system;

4. *Notes* the Commission's decision to continue monitoring the level of the margin and to take the necessary corrective action under the operation of the post adjustment system should the trigger levels of 113 or 117 be breached;

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<sup>50</sup> [ST/SGB/2014/3](#).

**C. Post adjustment issues**

1. *Requests* the Commission to continue its efforts to improve the post adjustment system in order to minimize any gap between the pay indices and the post adjustment indices, and in this context welcomes the review of the post adjustment system methodology and operational rules governing the determination of post adjustment multipliers so as to enhance the accuracy, stability and predictability of salary adjustments;

2. *Welcomes* the establishment of a working group to consider the feasibility of more frequent reviews of post adjustment classifications of duty stations, and requests the Commission to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

**III**

**Conditions of service in the field: duty stations with extreme hardship conditions**

*Decides* to grant, on a pilot basis, an amount of 15,000 United States dollars for staff members with eligible dependants in duty stations with E hardship classification conditions only, as specified in paragraphs 156 (a), (c) and (d) of the report of the Commission for 2018, and requests the Commission to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a recommendation on this payment, including on its continuation, based on a review of the impact thereof, including workforce planning, in different categories of duty stations, including non-family duty stations, and the actual cost to the organizations.

**RESOLUTION 73/274**

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/673, para. 6)

**73/274. United Nations pension system**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 57/286 of 20 December 2002, 61/240 of 22 December 2006, 70/238 A of 23 December 2015 and 71/265 of 23 December 2016, section XV of its resolution 72/262 A of 24 December 2017 and its resolution 72/266 A of 24 December 2017,

*Having considered* the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board for 2018,<sup>51</sup> the report of the Secretary-General on the investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and measures undertaken to increase the diversification of the Fund,<sup>52</sup> the financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017 and the report of the Board of Auditors on the Fund<sup>53</sup> and the recommendations contained therein, the report of the Secretary of the Pension Board and the Representative of the Secretary-General for the investment of the assets of the Fund on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report for the year ended 31 December 2017 on the Fund,<sup>54</sup> the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions<sup>55</sup> and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the comprehensive audit of the governance structure and related processes of the Pension Board,<sup>56</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board;<sup>51</sup>

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and measures undertaken to increase the diversification of the Fund;<sup>52</sup>

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<sup>51</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 9 (A/73/9).*

<sup>52</sup> *A/C.5/73/3.*

<sup>53</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 5P (A/73/5/Add.16).*

<sup>54</sup> *A/73/342.*

<sup>55</sup> *A/73/489.*

<sup>56</sup> *A/73/341.*

3. *Further takes note* of the report of the Secretary of the Pension Board and the Representative of the Secretary-General for the investment of the assets of the Fund on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report for the year ended 31 December 2017 on the Fund;<sup>54</sup>

4. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;<sup>55</sup>

5. *Emphasizes* the existing prerogative of the General Assembly on matters pertaining to the Fund;

#### **Actuarial matters**

6. *Notes* the valuation results reporting a deficit of 0.12 per cent as at 31 December 2017, compared with a surplus of 0.41 per cent as at 31 December 2015, and in this regard stresses the importance of continuing to achieve the necessary 3.5 per cent annual real rate of return on a long-term basis for the future solvency of the Fund;

#### **Financial statements of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and report of the Board of Auditors**

7. *Notes* the findings and recommendations contained in the report of the Board of Auditors on the Fund;<sup>53</sup>

8. *Also notes* that the Board of Auditors issued an unqualified audit opinion on the financial statements of the Fund for the year ended 31 December 2017;

9. *Reiterates* the importance of the implementation of all the recommendations of the Board of Auditors by the secretariat of the Fund, the Pension Board and the Representative of the Secretary-General, in full and in a timely manner, and of reporting thereon in the next report to the General Assembly;

10. *Urges* the Pension Board to address all pending issues with clear targets and milestones, and requests the Fund to conduct an independent assessment of the Integrated Pension Administration System, within existing resources, and to report thereon in the context of its next report;

11. *Requests* the Pension Board to ensure that the development of an electronic signature verification system to facilitate the certificate of entitlement process will be implemented expeditiously, in compliance with the relevant regulations and rules, notably the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations<sup>57</sup> and the Procurement Manual;

#### **Governance**

12. *Notes* the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and the corresponding comments of the Pension Board with regard to the audit of the governance structure of the Board<sup>56</sup> requested by the General Assembly in section XV, paragraph 8, of its resolution 72/262 A;

13. *Also notes* the current dual role of the Chief Executive Officer and Secretary of the Pension Board, and decides to replace the existing post by two distinct and independent posts, namely, "Pension Benefits Administrator" and "Secretary of the Pension Board", by no later than January 2020;

14. *Further notes* that the Pension Board established a working group, which should adhere to the tripartite structure of the Board, to consider the issues of participation, rotation and equitable representation on the Board and to review the following elements:

(a) The terms of reference and self-evaluation methodology of Board members;

(b) The composition and size of the Board, including the role of retiree representatives and the modalities for directly electing retiree representatives to the Board;

(c) Allocation of seats on the Board;

(d) Implementation of a review and rotation scheme for the adjustment of the composition of the Board on a regular basis, to allow eligible member organizations to share rotating seats in a fair and equitable manner;

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<sup>57</sup> ST/SGB/2013/4 and ST/SGB/2013/4/Amend.1.



## VI. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee

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- (e) A regular review mechanism for the adjustment of the composition of the Board;
  - (f) The usage of the Standing Committee;
  - (g) The need for the Assets and Liability Monitoring Committee;
15. *Requests* the Pension Board to submit the key findings of the review to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-fourth session;
16. *Urges* the Pension Board to ensure timely and proper succession planning for the posts of Chief Executive Officer and Deputy Chief Executive Officer in order to allow adequate time for a competitive selection process, based on pre-established procedures, that ensures integrity and fairness;
17. *Emphasizes* that the Office of Internal Oversight Services shall remain the sole internal oversight body of the secretariat of the Fund and its investments, in line with the mandate of the Office, as set out by the General Assembly in its resolution [48/218 B](#) of 29 July 1994, and stresses that any change to the mandate in this regard remains the sole prerogative of the Assembly;
18. *Encourages* the Pension Board to update rule H.1 of the financial rules of the Fund in accordance with paragraph 17 above;
19. *Also encourages* the Pension Board to review the provisions contained in the declaration on confidentiality and conflict of interest in order to develop a standard operating procedure regarding the circumstances under which the declaration should be used, and to report on progress made thereon in the next report of the Board;
20. *Requests* the Pension Board to provide further analysis on the impact of the proposed amendments to articles 6 and 48 of the Regulations, Rules and Pension Adjustment System of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and to report thereon in the context of the next report;
21. *Recalls* that, subsequent to the establishment of the Fund and the adoption of its regulations, in its resolution [248 \(III\)](#) of 7 December 1948, the General Assembly has sole and ultimate authority to approve amendments to the Regulations governing the Fund;
22. *Decides* to amend article 4 of the Regulations of the Fund by inserting a new subparagraph (c) to read as follows: “Subject to the provisions of these Regulations, the Board shall adopt its own rules of procedure, which shall be reported to the General Assembly and the member organizations”;
23. *Also decides* to approve the proposed amendments to articles 30, 32 and 46 of the Regulations of the Fund, as set out in annex XI to the report of the Pension Board;
24. *Approves* the exception to article 15 (b) of the Regulations of the Fund, to effect a change from a biennial to an annual budget, on a trial basis, subject to the follow-up review to be conducted by the Secretary-General for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session;
25. *Reiterates* the need to establish appropriate mechanisms to avoid conflicts of interest between the management of the Fund and the constituent groups of the Pension Board and to report thereon in the context of the next report of the Board;
26. *Requests* the secretariat of the Fund to continue to work towards meeting the target of 15 business days for benefit processing for actionable cases, and, in this regard, looks forward to an update in the context of the next report of the Pension Board;
27. *Reiterates* the need to enhance the processing of the receipt of payments by some beneficiaries, and stresses the need for the Fund:
- (a) To increase efforts to address the delays and proactively resolve actionable cases, open workflows and legacy and other outstanding cases and to ensure the implementation of a system to prioritize the resolution of the most urgent and severe cases;
  - (b) To further strengthen communication and transparency with member organizations and their staff pension committees;
  - (c) To provide an update on these issues in the context of the next report of the Pension Board;

## VI. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee

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28. *Requests* the Pension Board to review and set key performance indicators for the senior management of the secretariat of the Fund and to tie their performance evaluation, in part, to the proportion of cases processed and to the number of outstanding cases;

29. *Requests* the Fund to assess the efficiency and geographical coverage of call centres and client service operations and to report on its findings in the context of the next report of the Pension Board;

30. *Decides* to reconstitute the Executive Office of the Pension Fund so that it is directly responsible for the provision of administrative services to both entities of the Fund,<sup>58</sup> within existing resources;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Pension Board to continue to ensure that the staff composition of the Office of Investment Management and of the secretariat of the Fund is recruited on as wide a geographical basis as possible, bearing in mind Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, and to provide an update on progress achieved in the context of their next reports;

32. *Recalls* the high proportion of resources dedicated to support functions, highlights the importance of strong monitoring of the use and distribution of resources, including temporary resources, across the secretariat of the Fund, and requests the Pension Board to strengthen monitoring to ensure that the secretariat of the Fund utilizes resources in accordance with the decisions of the General Assembly;

### **Investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund**

33. *Highlights* the fact that the investment strategy of the Fund should be guided by its annualized real rate of return target, and calls upon the Secretary-General to continue intensive efforts towards meeting the investment policy objectives;

34. *Reaffirms* that the Secretary-General serves as fiduciary for the investment of the assets of the Fund;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as fiduciary for the investment of the assets of the Fund, to continue to diversify its investments among developed, developing and emerging markets, wherever this serves the interests of the participants and the beneficiaries of the Fund, and also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that decisions concerning the investments of the Fund in any market are implemented prudently, taking fully into account the four main criteria for investment, namely, safety, profitability, liquidity and convertibility;

36. *Notes* that emerging and frontier markets, including markets in Africa, are increasingly important to the investment strategy of the Fund;

37. *Requests* the Office of Investment Management to expedite its fraud risk assessment, and further requests the Secretary-General to submit detailed information on follow-up measures to the General Assembly in the context of the next report of the Pension Board;

38. *Recalls* the mandates of the Investments Committee and the Committee of Actuaries, welcomes the established practice of holding joint meetings, and encourages the Committees to increase joint interaction with the Pension Board;

39. *Trusts* that the Secretary-General will continue to exert further efforts to identify potential candidates from all regional groups for membership in the Investments Committee;

### **Other matters**

40. *Approves* the admission of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization to membership in the Fund, with effect from 1 January 2019;

41. *Concurs*, in accordance with article 13 of the Regulations of the Fund and with a view to securing the continuity of pension rights, with the new agreement on the transfer of pension rights of participants in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and officials of the African Development Bank, as approved by the Pension Board and set out in annex XIII to the report of the Board, which will become effective on 1 January 2019;

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<sup>58</sup> Secretariat of the Fund and Office of Investment Management.

42. *Stresses* the important role of the Pension Board in ensuring the sustainability of the Fund, by managing expenses prudently, setting cost benchmarks and keeping the cost per participant and beneficiary within its historical 10-year average, after adjusting for inflation;

43. *Looks forward* to considering the next quadrennial report on the long-term sustainability of the Fund in the context of the next report of the Pension Board;

44. *Highlights* the importance attached by the General Assembly to continuing to ensure unfaltering accountability by the Pension Board, and requests the Board to provide detailed follow-up on all aspects of the implementation of the present resolution, including information on the implementation of the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services agreed to by the Board, in the context of its report to be submitted at the seventy-fourth session of the Assembly.

## RESOLUTION 73/275

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/672, para. 6)

### 73/275. Report on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

*The General Assembly,*

#### I

#### Activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

*Recalling* its resolutions 48/218 B of 29 July 1994, 54/244 of 23 December 1999, 59/272 of 23 December 2004, 60/259 of 8 May 2006, 63/265 of 24 December 2008, 64/232 of 22 December 2009, 64/263 of 29 March 2010, 65/250 of 24 December 2010, 66/236 of 24 December 2011, 67/258 of 12 April 2013, 68/21 of 4 December 2013, 69/252 and 69/253 of 29 December 2014, 70/111 of 14 December 2015, 71/7 of 27 October 2016 and 72/18 of 1 December 2017,

*Having considered* the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018,<sup>59</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* its primary role in the consideration of and action taken on reports submitted to it;
2. *Also reaffirms* its oversight role and the role of the Fifth Committee in administrative and budgetary matters;
3. *Further reaffirms* the independence and the separate and distinct roles of the internal and external oversight mechanisms;
4. *Recognizes* the important roles and operational independence of the oversight bodies, including the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat, in contributing to improvements in the effectiveness, transparency and accountability of the Organization;
5. *Encourages* the Office to continue its efforts aimed at enhancing its audit, investigation, inspection and evaluation functions;
6. *Recalls* that the Office shall exercise operational independence relating to the performance of its internal oversight functions, under the authority of the Secretary-General, in accordance with the relevant resolutions;
7. *Reaffirms* the operational independence of the Office, stresses that its independence and objectivity are vital in ensuring that its internal oversight functions are carried out in a credible, factual and unbiased manner, and reaffirms the authority of the Office to initiate, carry out and report on any action that it considers necessary to fulfil its oversight functions;

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<sup>59</sup> A/73/324 (Part I) and A/73/324 (Part I)/Add.1.

## VI. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee

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8. *Encourages* United Nations internal and external oversight bodies to further enhance the level of cooperation with one another, such as through joint work-planning sessions, without prejudice to the independence of each;
9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to promote effective coordination and collaboration with regard to the audit, evaluation and investigation functions of the Office in order to ensure an integrated approach to its oversight function, bearing in mind the operational independence of the Office;
10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the annual reports of the Office continue to include a brief description of any impairment of its independence;
11. *Takes note* of the report of the Office on its activities for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018;<sup>59</sup>
12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all relevant resolutions pertaining to the work of the Office are brought to the attention of the relevant managers;
13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all relevant resolutions, including those of a cross-cutting nature, are brought to the attention of relevant managers and that the Office also takes those resolutions into account in the conduct of its activities;
14. *Notes with concern* the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Office, and requests the Secretary-General to implement the outstanding and recurring recommendations of the Office;
15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the full implementation of the accepted recommendations of the Office, including those related to accountability mechanisms, cost savings, recovery of overpayments, organizational efficiency and effectiveness and other improvements, in a prompt and timely manner, and to provide detailed justifications in cases in which recommendations of the Office are not accepted;
16. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to make use of the expertise of the Office in the ongoing reform process, as appropriate, by implementing its relevant recommendations;
17. *Welcomes* the efforts and progress made by the Office in reducing the number of vacant posts, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to make every effort to fill the remaining vacant posts, particularly in the Investigations Division and in the field, in accordance with the relevant provisions governing recruitment in the United Nations, as well as to sustain the progress made thus far;
18. *Encourages* the Office to strengthen its focus, as appropriate, on performance audits, and welcomes the efforts of the Office in terms of reviewing what share of its reports include elements of performance audits;
19. *Also encourages* the Office, in future annual reports, to continue its analysis of general trends and strategic challenges regarding internal oversight in the United Nations and to include an update of all critical recommendations, taking into account the risk category, the target date for implementation and the office to be held accountable for such implementation;
20. *Notes with appreciation* the continued focus of the Internal Audit Division on a risk-based approach and a workplan focused on effectiveness, efficiency, governance and oversight and the investigation of potential fraud;
21. *Notes* the role of the Office as the central intake mechanism for allegations of fraud and corruption in the Secretariat, and encourages the Office to consider calls to expand the reporting and recording of all forms of misconduct as part of renewed efforts to strengthen and professionalize the investigations function of the United Nations system;
22. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Office to promote the Organization's zero-tolerance approach to fraud, corruption, sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse, and the actions taken in this regard, including the creation of a specialized team to investigate sexual harassment complaints and the implementation of a procedure for addressing such complaints, as well as the development of uniform principles and guidelines to strengthen investigations of sexual exploitation and abuse by ensuring a victim-centred approach in response to reported allegations across the United Nations system;
23. *Takes into account* the high level of risk inherent in United Nations procurement activities, and encourages the Office to strengthen its focus on the monitoring of United Nations procurement and to report thereon biennially in conjunction with the related report of the Secretary-General;

24. *Encourages* the top management of the Organization to actively lead enterprise risk management efforts in all offices, and requests the administration to develop a detailed implementation plan for all elements of enterprise risk management that sets out a clear timetable, milestones, deliverables, resource requirements and accountability;

25. *Encourages* the Office to undertake additional measures aimed at enhancing its audit of United Nations peacekeeping missions that are closing;

26. *Reaffirms* that the Board of Auditors and the Joint Inspection Unit shall continue to be provided with copies of all reports produced by the Office, and requests that those reports be made available within one month of their finalization;

## II

### Activities of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee

*Recalling* its resolutions [61/275](#) of 29 June 2007, [64/263](#), section II of its resolution [66/236](#), section II of its resolution [67/258](#), section II of its resolution [68/21](#), section II of its resolution [69/252](#), section II of its resolution [70/111](#), section II of its resolution [71/7](#) and section II of its resolution [72/18](#),

*Having considered* the report of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee on its activities for the period from 1 August 2017 to 31 July 2018,<sup>60</sup>

1. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee;
2. *Reaffirms* the terms of reference of the Committee, as contained in the annex to its resolution [61/275](#);
3. *Endorses* the observations, comments and recommendations contained in paragraphs 16, 19, 23, 25, 32, 35, 40, 42, 46, 52, 59, 60, 62, 65, 68, 70, 74, 81, 84, 87, 93, 94, 98 and 104 of the report of the Committee;<sup>60</sup>
4. *Invites* the Committee to continue to examine the operational independence of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, including on budgetary matters;
5. *Encourages* the Committee to continue its consultations with all relevant bodies in the United Nations, as appropriate.

### RESOLUTION 73/276

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/669](#), para. 6)

#### 73/276. Administration of justice at the United Nations

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* section XI of its resolution [55/258](#) of 14 June 2001 and its resolutions [57/307](#) of 15 April 2003, [59/266](#) of 23 December 2004, [59/283](#) of 13 April 2005, [61/261](#) of 4 April 2007, [62/228](#) of 22 December 2007, [63/253](#) of 24 December 2008, [64/233](#) of 22 December 2009, [65/251](#) of 24 December 2010, [66/237](#) of 24 December 2011, [67/241](#) of 24 December 2012, [68/254](#) of 27 December 2013, [69/203](#) of 18 December 2014, [70/112](#) of 14 December 2015, [71/266](#) of 23 December 2016 and [72/256](#) of 24 December 2017,

*Having considered* the reports of the Secretary-General on administration of justice at the United Nations<sup>61</sup> and on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services,<sup>62</sup> the report of the Internal Justice Council on administration of justice at the United Nations<sup>63</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee

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<sup>60</sup> [A/73/304](#).

<sup>61</sup> [A/73/217](#) and [A/73/217/Add.1](#).

<sup>62</sup> [A/73/167](#).

<sup>63</sup> [A/73/218](#).

on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,<sup>64</sup> as well as the letter dated 13 November 2018 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chair of the Fifth Committee,<sup>65</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on administration of justice at the United Nations<sup>61</sup> and on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services,<sup>62</sup> the report of the Internal Justice Council on administration of justice at the United Nations<sup>63</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;<sup>64</sup>

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

## I

### System of administration of justice

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the principle of judicial independence in the system of administration of justice;

4. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring access for all staff members to the system of administration of justice, regardless of their duty station;

5. *Acknowledges* the evolving nature of the system of administration of justice and the need to carefully monitor its implementation to ensure that it remains within the parameters set out by the General Assembly;

6. *Reaffirms* its decision, contained in paragraph 4 of its resolution 61/261, to establish a new, independent, transparent, professionalized, adequately resourced and decentralized system of administration of justice consistent with the relevant rules of international law and the principles of the rule of law and due process to ensure respect for the rights and obligations of staff members and the accountability of managers and staff members alike;

7. *Notes* that staff still appear to have limited awareness of the system of administration of justice, and urges the Secretary-General to further strengthen and increase his outreach activities, with a view to raising awareness of the role and functioning of the various parts of the system and the possibilities that it offers to address work-related complaints, paying particular attention to field missions and offices;

8. *Recalls* paragraph 27 of its resolution 71/266, further stresses the importance of continuing to implement a comprehensive outreach and communication strategy for all staff members covered under the formal and informal parts of the system of administration of justice, and in this regard invites the Secretary-General to take further measures, within existing resources, in line with paragraph 44 of the report of the Internal Justice Council, to address the need for improving staff knowledge and understanding of the system;

9. *Welcomes* the analysis of the root causes of conflict included in the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services, stresses the importance of improving management performance and staff communication, urges the Secretary-General to continue to address the systemic issues identified in the report in order to improve upon the policies and procedures of the Organization, and requests the Secretary-General to provide information on changes resulting from the actions taken in the context of his next report;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure a strong culture of accountability throughout the Secretariat and that all categories of personnel who may have been subjected to prohibited conduct in a work-related situation have access to effective remedies;<sup>66</sup>

11. *Notes* the new revised policy on protection against retaliation for reporting misconduct and for cooperating with duly authorized audits or investigations<sup>67</sup> and the ongoing efforts to annually review and assess the terms and implementation of the policy, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to report in the context of his next

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<sup>64</sup> A/73/428.

<sup>65</sup> A/C.5/73/11.

<sup>66</sup> ST/SGB/2008/5.

<sup>67</sup> ST/SGB/2017/2/Rev.1.



report on the system of administration of justice on how retaliation against staff members who lodge cases before the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal or who appear as witnesses is being addressed;

## II

### Informal system

12. *Recognizes* that the informal system of administration of justice is an efficient and effective option both for staff who seek redress of grievances and for the participation of managers;

13. *Reaffirms* that the informal resolution of conflict is a crucial element of the system of administration of justice, emphasizes that all possible use should be made of the informal system in order to avoid unnecessary litigation, without prejudice to the basic right of staff members to access the formal system, and encourages recourse to the informal resolution of disputes;

14. *Welcomes with appreciation* the high resolution rate of cases mediated, encourages the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services to continue its efforts in informal dispute resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide detailed information on the activities of the Office, including statistical overviews of mediated cases;

15. *Encourages* the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services to intensify its outreach activities to encourage informal dispute resolution;

16. *Recalls* paragraph 37 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to establish, within existing resources, the pilot project to offer access to informal dispute-resolution services to non-staff personnel;

17. *Decides* that the pilot project will not affect the mandate of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services, and recognizes that the Office may decide to conduct outreach to non-staff;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish, in assessing the current and projected workload arising from services to non-staff personnel, both quantitative and qualitative analysis, including type of grievances and the efficiency of case management, and requests the Secretary-General to provide this information and, if necessary, further recommendations in the context of his next report;

## III

### Formal system

19. *Recognizes* the ongoing positive contribution of the Office of Staff Legal Assistance to the system of administration of justice;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the accountability of managers whose decisions have been established to be grossly negligent, according to the applicable Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,<sup>68</sup> and which have led to litigation and subsequent financial loss, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

21. *Notes with concern* the number of pending applications to the United Nations Dispute Tribunal;

22. *Recalls* paragraph 10 of the report of the Advisory Committee, notes the continuing variations in the number of cases received by different parts of the formal system from year to year, underscores the need for continued analysis of the trends in new cases received, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to collect statistics pertaining to the caseload of the different entities within the system and to include observations on these statistics in future reports;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite the Internal Justice Council to monitor and report on the timely delivery of judgments, in line with its terms of reference, and to provide its views on the implementation of the system of administration of justice;

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<sup>68</sup> [ST/SGB/2018/1](#).

24. *Recalls* paragraph 14 of the report of the Advisory Committee, requests the President of the Dispute Tribunal and the Principal Registrar of the Dispute Tribunal and the Appeals Tribunal to work together to develop and implement a case disposal plan with a real-time case-tracking dashboard and performance indicators on the disposal of caseloads, takes note of recommendations 7 to 11 on judicial and operational efficiency contained in the report of the Internal Justice Council, stresses the need to improve administrative efficiency, and requests the Secretary-General to report on progress made to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to track the data on the number of cases received by the Management Evaluation Unit and the Dispute Tribunal in order to identify any emerging trends and to include his observations on those statistics in future reports;

26. *Notes* the continuing increase in the workload of the Office of Staff Legal Assistance, expresses its satisfaction that the majority of requests for legal assistance received by the Office were settled or otherwise disposed of without recourse to any formal mechanism, and acknowledges that the Office should be adequately resourced;

27. *Also notes* the continuing high degree of self-representation before the Dispute Tribunal, requests the Secretary-General to take forward, within existing resources, his proposals to provide guidance to self-represented applicants and to enhance their understanding and ability to utilize the system and mitigate efficiency concerns, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to monitor this issue and report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

28. *Takes note* of paragraph 30 of the report of the Advisory Committee, decides to extend the voluntary supplemental funding mechanism for the Office of Staff Legal Assistance for a period of three years, from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2021, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide updates in the context of future reports;

29. *Underscores* that any changes to the voluntary staff funding mechanism shall not affect the nature of the funding of the Office of Staff Legal Assistance;

30. *Notes* the continuing high opt-out rates from the voluntary staff funding mechanism, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen incentives for staff not to opt out, particularly in locations and United Nations entities where the participation rate is low;

31. *Stresses* the need to continue to explore means to raise awareness among staff of the importance of financial contributions to the Office of Staff Legal Assistance, and requests the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to encourage the executive heads of the United Nations system to communicate with their staff in this regard;

32. *Takes note* of paragraphs 20 and 21 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and approves the addition of four half-time judges in lieu of the three ad litem judges to the Dispute Tribunal, to be deployed as required by caseload and any absences affecting the work of the Tribunal;

33. *Decides* to amend article 4.1 of the statute of the Dispute Tribunal as follows:

“The Dispute Tribunal shall be composed of three full-time judges and six half-time judges”;

34. *Also decides* to amend article 5 of the statute of the Dispute Tribunal as follows:

“1. The three full-time judges of the Dispute Tribunal shall exercise their functions in New York, Geneva and Nairobi, respectively.

“2. The half-time judges of the Dispute Tribunal shall be deployed up to a cumulative period of six months per year, as decided by the President based on the caseload and any judicial absences affecting the work of the Tribunal.

“3. The Dispute Tribunal may decide to hold sessions at duty stations other than New York, Geneva and Nairobi, as required by its caseload”;

35. *Encourages* the Dispute Tribunal to make full use of telecommuting in the deployment of half-time judges so as to promote efficiencies in the use of resources, and requests the President of the Tribunal, following consultations with the Principal Registrar, to decide on a quarterly basis whether and where to deploy half-time judges;

36. *Underscores* that the half-time judges may not be deployed in a particular year or may be deployed less than a cumulative period of six months a year if their deployment is not justified by the Dispute Tribunal's caseload;

37. *Decides* to extend the positions of the two ad litem judges in Geneva and Nairobi and the current incumbent judges, pending the nomination of candidates by the Internal Justice Council and the appointment of the aforementioned four half-time judges by the General Assembly, which should take place no later than 31 December 2019;

38. *Also decides* not to extend the ad litem judge position in New York, which expires on 31 December 2018;

39. *Takes note* of paragraph 26 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and invites the Internal Justice Council to provide more detailed information regarding the unexpected judicial vacancies, including information on the scope of a formal roster of candidates to the General Assembly in the context of its next report;

40. *Approves* the proposal of the Secretary-General to amend article 7 of the rules of procedure of the Appeals Tribunal, as contained in paragraph 120 (g) of his report on administration of justice;<sup>69</sup>

#### IV

##### Other issues

41. *Invites* the Sixth Committee to consider the legal aspects of the report to be submitted by the Secretary-General, without prejudice to the role of the Fifth Committee as the Main Committee entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;

42. *Welcomes* further views of the Internal Justice Council in its next report to the General Assembly on possible ways to improve judicial and operational efficiency;

43. *Stresses* that the Internal Justice Council can help to ensure independence, professionalism and accountability in the system of administration of justice, and requests the Secretary-General to entrust the Council to include the views of both the Dispute Tribunal and the Appeals Tribunal in its reports;

44. *Also stresses* that all elements of the system of administration of justice, including the Dispute Tribunal and the Appeals Tribunal, must work in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the legal and regulatory framework approved by the General Assembly, and emphasizes that the decisions of the Assembly related to human resources management and administrative and budgetary matters are subject to review by the Assembly alone;

45. *Reaffirms* that, in accordance with paragraph 5 of its resolution 67/241 and paragraph 28 of its resolution 63/253, the Dispute Tribunal and the Appeals Tribunal shall not have any powers beyond those conferred under their respective statutes;

46. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, from within existing resources, and with a view to informing the discussions at the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly, a comprehensive analysis, in the context of his next report, of the remedies available to non-staff personnel, including their effectiveness, efforts that could be made to prevent disputes and to resolve existing disputes *inter partes*, as well as the identification of good practices, drawing on information and proposals contained in his reports submitted to the Assembly at its sixty-sixth,<sup>70</sup> sixty-seventh,<sup>71</sup> seventy-second<sup>72</sup> and seventy-third sessions;<sup>73</sup>

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<sup>69</sup> A/73/217.

<sup>70</sup> A/66/275 and A/66/275/Corr.1, annex II.

<sup>71</sup> A/67/265 and A/67/265/Corr.1, annexes IV–VI.

<sup>72</sup> A/72/204, annex II.

<sup>73</sup> A/73/217, paras. 96–105.

47. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide, to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, an in-depth assessment, from within existing resources, on the impact of the new measures introduced in the present resolution.

### RESOLUTION 73/277

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/670, para. 6)

#### 73/277. Financing of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals for the biennium 2018–2019,<sup>74</sup> the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions<sup>75</sup> and the financial reports and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017 and the reports of the Board of Auditors on the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991<sup>76</sup> and on the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals,<sup>77</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 66/240 A of 24 December 2011 on the financing of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 72/258 B of 5 July 2018,

1. *Takes note* of the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals for the biennium 2018–2019;<sup>74</sup>

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;<sup>75</sup>

3. *Decides* on a revised appropriation to the Special Account for the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals of a total amount of 195,720,600 United States dollars gross (174,690,800 dollars net) for the biennium 2018–2019, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

4. *Also decides*, for the year 2019, to apportion among Member States, in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for the year, the amount of 48,854,275 dollars gross (43,583,500 dollars net), including 151,750 dollars gross (178,400 dollars net), being the decrease in assessments;

5. *Further decides*, for the year 2019, to apportion among Member States, in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for the year, the amount of 48,854,275 dollars gross (43,583,500 dollars net), including 151,750 dollars gross (178,400 dollars net), being the decrease in assessments;

6. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 4 and 5 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the amount of 10,541,550 dollars, including 53,300 dollars, being the increase of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the Mechanism for the biennium 2018–2019.

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<sup>74</sup> A/73/491.

<sup>75</sup> A/73/620.

<sup>76</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 5N (A/73/5/Add.14).

<sup>77</sup> Ibid., Supplement No. 5O (A/73/5/Add.15).

Annex

Financing of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals for the biennium 2018–2019

	Gross	Net
	(United States dollars)	
Initial appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019 (resolution <a href="#">72/258 B</a> )	196 024 100	175 047 600
First performance report for the biennium 2018–2019 ( <a href="#">A/73/491</a> )	(303 500)	(356 800)
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions ( <a href="#">A/73/620</a> )	–	–
Recommendations of the Fifth Committee	–	–
<b>Revised appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019</b>	<b>195 720 600</b>	<b>174 690 800</b>
Less: Assessment for 2018	98 012 050	87 523 800
<b>Balance to be assessed for 2019</b>	<b>97 708 550</b>	<b>87 167 000</b>
<i>Including:</i>		
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2019	48 854 275	43 583 500
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for 2019	48 854 275	43 583 500

RESOLUTION 73/278

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/674](#), para. 6)

**73/278. Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur<sup>78</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,<sup>79</sup>

*Recalling* Security Council resolution [1769 \(2007\)](#) of 31 July 2007, by which the Council established the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur for an initial period of 12 months from 31 July 2007, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Operation, the latest of which was resolution [2429 \(2018\)](#) of 13 July 2018, by which the Council extended the mandate of the Operation until 30 June 2019,

*Recalling also* its resolution [62/232 A](#) of 22 December 2007 on the financing of the Operation and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution [72/259 B](#) of 5 July 2018, as well as its decision 72/558 of 5 July 2018,

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,<sup>79</sup> subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

<sup>78</sup> [A/73/488](#).

<sup>79</sup> [A/73/656](#).

2. *Recalls* paragraph 16 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to fill all vacant positions expeditiously and to complete the recruitment process for those posts presently encumbered by the use of special post allowances promptly;

3. *Decides* to allocate an amount of 56,830,000 United States dollars for air operations from the overall resources for the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur;

4. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to develop an accountability framework for the performance of entities that are not a part of the United Nations Secretariat when they perform activities funded by the Operation's resources, excluding the provision of goods and services through contractual arrangements;

5. *Underlines* the critical contribution that programmatic activities make to the implementation of the mandates of the Operation and that all such activities must be directly linked to the mandates of the Operation;

#### **Revised budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019**

6. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur the amount of 715,522,700 dollars for the maintenance of the Operation for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019, inclusive of the amount of 385,678,500 dollars previously authorized for the Operation for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2018 under the terms of its resolution [72/259 B](#);

#### **Financing of the appropriation**

7. *Decides*, taking into account the amount of 385,678,500 dollars already apportioned under the terms of its resolution [72/259 B](#) for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2018, to apportion among Member States the additional amount of 329,844,200 dollars for the maintenance of the Operation for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2019, in accordance with the levels updated in its resolution [73/272](#) of 22 December 2018, taking into account the scale of assessments for 2019, as set out in its resolution [73/271](#) of 22 December 2018;

8. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution [973 \(X\)](#) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 8,303,600 dollars, representing the balance of the estimated staff assessment income of 19,178,100 dollars approved for the Operation for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019;

9. *Further decides* to keep under review, during its seventy-third session, the item entitled "Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur".

### **RESOLUTION 73/279**

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/686](#), para. 60)

#### **73/279. Special subjects relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019**

*The General Assembly,*

#### **I**

#### **Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 2018 session**

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General<sup>80</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,<sup>81</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>80</sup>

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<sup>80</sup> [A/73/400](#).

<sup>81</sup> [A/73/478](#).



2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;<sup>81</sup>
3. *Approves* the revised biennial programme plan for programme 15, Economic and social development in Africa, for the period 2018–2019, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General;
4. *Also approves* the establishment of seven posts (4 P-5, 1 P-4 and 2 P-3), effective 1 January 2019, under section 18A, Economic and social development in Africa, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;
5. *Further approves* the abolishment of seven posts (3 P-5, 2 P-4 and 2 P-3), effective 1 January 2019, under section 18A, Economic and social development in Africa, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;
6. *Approves* the reclassification of one P-5 post to the P-4 level, effective 1 January 2019, under section 18A, Economic and social development in Africa, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

## II

### **Revised estimates relating to the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization under section 5, Peacekeeping operations**

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General<sup>82</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>83</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>82</sup>
2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;<sup>83</sup>
3. *Approves* the additional resources proposed in the amount of 2,315,400 United States dollars (net of staff assessment) for the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization;
4. *Appropriates* an additional amount of 2,315,400 dollars (net of staff assessment) under section 5, Peacekeeping operations, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

## III

### **Request for a subvention to the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone**

*Recalling* its resolution [58/284](#) of 8 April 2004, section VII of its resolution [59/276](#) of 23 December 2004, section II of its resolution [59/294](#) of 22 June 2005, section XII of its resolution [65/259](#) of 24 December 2010, section IX of its resolution [66/247](#) of 24 December 2011, section I of its resolution [67/246](#) of 24 December 2012, section VII of its resolution [70/248](#) A of 23 December 2015, section III of its resolution [71/272](#) A of 23 December 2016 and section VIII of its resolution [72/262](#) A of 24 December 2017,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the use of the commitment authority and request for a subvention to the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone<sup>84</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>85</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>84</sup>
2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;<sup>85</sup>
3. *Reaffirms* the high priority accorded to the work of the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone;
4. *Welcomes* the in-kind support provided by the Government of Sierra Leone to the Residual Special Court, including support for the sub-office of the Court in Freetown and for the provision of security personnel;
5. *Also welcomes* the support provided by several countries, including voluntary contributions, pro bono services and in-kind support in housing the archives of the Residual Special Court and prisoners of the Court;
6. *Expresses serious concern* over the adverse financial situation facing the Residual Special Court, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to redouble his efforts to seek voluntary contributions, including through

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<sup>82</sup> [A/73/402](#).

<sup>83</sup> [A/73/492](#).

<sup>84</sup> [A/73/379](#) and [A/73/379/Corr.1](#).

<sup>85</sup> [A/73/580](#).

broadening the donor base and holding regular consultations with the key stakeholders, as well as to implement innovative fundraising approaches, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-fourth session;

7. *Encourages* all Member States to provide voluntary support for the Residual Special Court;

8. *Recalls* paragraphs 19, 20 and 22 (c) of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to analyse the options concerning the long-term arrangements for the Residual Special Court in greater detail by identifying possible savings and additional measures on transparency, accountability and cost efficiency of the use of the commitment authority, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-fourth session;

9. *Encourages* the Residual Special Court to work towards the completion of the full digitization of archives and to aim to complete the index and review of all judicial records by the end of 2019;

10. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed 2,537,000 dollars to supplement the voluntary financial resources of the Residual Special Court for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2019, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-fourth session on the use of the commitment authority;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals continues to provide logistical and administrative support to the Residual Special Court, on a cost-reimbursable basis, as appropriate, without prejudice to the mandate of each of the entities;

#### IV

##### **Subvention to the international component of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia**

*Recalling* section I of its resolution [68/247 B](#) of 9 April 2014, section I of its resolution [69/274 A](#) of 2 April 2015, section IV of its resolution [70/248 A](#), section II of its resolution [71/272 A](#) and section IX of its resolution [72/262 A](#),

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the request for a subvention to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia<sup>86</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>87</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>86</sup>

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;<sup>87</sup>

3. *Reaffirms* the high priority accorded to the work of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia;

4. *Encourages* the Extraordinary Chambers to adopt appropriate measures for achieving operational savings and efficiencies, and to properly complete the judicial mandate in a transparent, accountable and cost-effective manner;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake consultations with the Extraordinary Chambers and the Government of Cambodia, in order to begin developing a framework for the completion of the work of the Extraordinary Chambers, including with regard to drawdown of activities, and to identify residual functions, if any, which will need to be performed following the completion of the mandate;

6. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not exceeding 7.5 million dollars to supplement the voluntary financial resources of the international component of the Extraordinary Chambers for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2019, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the use of the commitment authority in the context of the next report;

7. *Recalls* paragraph 25 of the report of the Advisory Committee, in which the Committee reiterates the ongoing need for intensified fundraising efforts, including by broadening the donor base, and encourages all Member

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<sup>86</sup> [A/73/331](#).

<sup>87</sup> [A/73/448](#).

States to provide continuing and additional voluntary support for both the international and national components of the Extraordinary Chambers in support of the expeditious completion of the mandate of the Chambers;

**V**

**Revised estimates relating to the Office of the Victims' Rights Advocate under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, section 29B, Department of Operational Support, and section 36, Staff assessment**

*Recalling* its resolution [71/297](#) of 30 June 2017 and section X of its resolution [72/262](#) A,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General<sup>88</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>89</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>88</sup>
2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;<sup>89</sup>
3. *Approves* the conversion of four positions to posts (1 Assistant Secretary-General, 1 P-4, 1 P-3 and 1 General Service (Other level)), under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;
4. *Appropriates* an additional amount of 836,100 dollars (net of staff assessment) under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination (772,500 dollars), and section 29B, Department of Operational Support (63,600 dollars), of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;
5. *Also appropriates* an additional amount of 94,100 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund;

**VI**

**Progress in the implementation of a flexible workplace at United Nations Headquarters**

*Recalling* section V of its resolution [67/246](#), section III of its resolution [67/254](#) A of 12 April 2013, section IV of its resolution [68/247](#) B, section VII of its resolution [69/274](#) A, section XVI of its resolution [71/272](#) A and section XI of its resolution [72/262](#) A,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General<sup>90</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>91</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>90</sup>
2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;<sup>91</sup>
3. *Reaffirms* that flexible workplace strategies in the United Nations should be aimed at improving the overall productivity and efficiency of the Organization, as well as the staff workplace environment;
4. *Reiterates* that flexible working arrangements shall be an integral part of all flexible workplace strategies, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of flexible working arrangements in his next report;
5. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of section XI of its resolution [72/262](#) A, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to update his bulletin on flexible working arrangements;
6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full compliance with its decisions and full cooperation with the implementation plan for the project, while meeting the needs of staff and ensuring their well-being and productivity;
7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue with the implementation of flexible workplace strategies in New York in 2019, with a maximum number of 140 staff per floor, and to report thereon at the main part of the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly;

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<sup>88</sup> [A/73/412](#).

<sup>89</sup> [A/73/649](#).

<sup>90</sup> [A/73/370](#) and [A/73/370/Corr.1](#).

<sup>91</sup> [A/73/635](#).

8. *Notes* that the actual costs per partial floor are not significantly lower than for a full floor, and requests the Secretary-General to seek further efficiencies in this regard and to report thereon in his next report;

9. *Welcomes* that the implementation of flexible workplace strategies in New York has enabled the termination of the leases of the United Nations Federal Credit Union Building in Court Square Place, Long Island City, and 300 East 42nd Street and 220 East 42nd Street in New York, and that the Secretary-General does not intend to terminate any further leases in 2019;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to explore options for the self-financing of the project and to report thereon in the context of his next report to the General Assembly for its consideration;

11. *Approves* the continuation of three temporary positions (1-P-5, 1 P-4 and 1 General Service (Other level)) for the project team in 2019;

12. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments up to the amount of 12,700,600 dollars in respect of the project costs in 2019;

13. *Appropriates* an amount of 6,586,600 dollars under component 5, Division of Administration, New York, of subsection 29B, Department of Operational Support, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

## VII

### **Seismic mitigation retrofit and life-cycle replacements project at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific premises in Bangkok**

*Recalling* section XII of its resolution [70/248 A](#), section IV of its resolution [71/272 A](#) and section XIII of its resolution [72/262 A](#),

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General<sup>92</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>93</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>92</sup>

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;<sup>93</sup>

3. *Notes with appreciation* the continued efforts of the Government of Thailand, as the host country, in facilitating the work of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok;

4. *Welcomes* the positive steps taken towards engaging with the host country, and encourages the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to continue the discussions on cooperation with the host country in this regard;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to include local knowledge, technology and capacity throughout the implementation of the construction project, as appropriate;

6. *Stresses* the importance of governance, effective oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within budget and in a timely manner;

7. *Emphasizes* that the Office of Central Support Services should continue to be actively involved in overseeing the project to ensure the central supervision of capital projects, including risk management and alignment with lessons learned;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take into account lessons learned and best practices from past construction and renovation projects and, in particular, to draw from experience and knowledge acquired from other capital projects;

9. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of section XIII of its resolution [72/262 A](#), and reiterates that unused contingency funds must be carried over to subsequent years and all remaining unused contingency funds returned to Member States at the conclusion of the project, in 2023;

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<sup>92</sup> [A/73/327](#).

<sup>93</sup> [A/73/425](#).

## VI. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee

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10. *Also recalls* paragraph 17 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to take appropriate measures to mitigate risks associated with the project;
11. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to remain proactive in seeking both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, in full compliance with all relevant rules and regulations of the Organization, and to provide detailed information on the matter in the context of the next progress report;
12. *Recalls* paragraphs 9 and 10 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and approves the refined scope of the project, including the on-site swing-space and the proposed new construction;
13. *Also recalls* paragraph 9 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to include detailed information on future rental income from the implementation of the on-site swing space strategy in the context of the next progress report;
14. *Further recalls* paragraph 11 of the report of the Advisory Committee, notes with concern that essential components such as fire and life safety mitigation work were previously unknown, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the project delivers renovated buildings that conform to relevant building codes and standards, including seismic mitigation and workplace safety, within the budget and timeline approved by the General Assembly;
15. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to respond flexibly to changes from internal and external factors in order to implement the project within the scope, budget and timeline approved by the General Assembly;
16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include detailed updated information on the plan to implement fire and life safety work in the context of his next progress report, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;
17. *Approves* the establishment of two temporary positions, (1 on-site Information Technology Assistant (Local level) and 1 Logistics and Coordination Officer (National Officer)), effective 1 January 2019, in the project support team, under section 19, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;
18. *Appropriates* an amount of 4,484,500 dollars for project activities in 2019, comprising 1,065,500 dollars under section 19, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, and 3,419,000 dollars under section 33, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

## VIII

### **Progress in the renovation of Africa Hall and the construction of new office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa**

*Recalling* its resolution [56/270](#) of 27 March 2002, section IX of its resolution [62/238](#) of 22 December 2007, section I of its resolution [63/263](#) of 24 December 2008, its resolution [64/243](#) of 24 December 2009, section III of its resolution [65/259](#), section VII of its resolution [66/247](#), section II of its resolution [67/246](#), section III of its resolution [68/247 A](#) of 27 December 2013, section V of its resolution [69/262](#) of 29 December 2014, section IX of its resolution [70/248 A](#), section V of its resolution [71/272 A](#) and section XII of its resolution [72/262 A](#),

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General<sup>94</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>95</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>94</sup>
2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;<sup>95</sup>
3. *Welcomes* the continued efforts of the Government of Ethiopia, as the host country, in facilitating the construction of additional office facilities and the renovation of the conference facilities, including Africa Hall, at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa;

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<sup>94</sup> [A/73/355](#).

<sup>95</sup> [A/73/616](#).

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4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop a case-by-case and comprehensive sustainable resource mobilization strategy, including both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, in full compliance with all relevant regulations and rules of the Organization, and to provide detailed information on the matter in the context of the next progress report;
5. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General continue to seek both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, in full compliance with all relevant regulations and rules of the Organization, and provide detailed information on the matter in the context of the next progress report;
6. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to utilize local knowledge, material, technology and capacity throughout the implementation of construction and renovation projects at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa, as appropriate;
7. *Appreciates* the completion of the construction of new office facilities (Zambezi Building) and its ancillary works, and trusts that the Secretary-General will continue to take steps to engage with the host country to ensure successful closure of the entire project;
8. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Secretary-General is committed to ensuring the renovation of Africa Hall, with particular consideration for the preservation of the historical and architectural integrity of the facility, and underlines the need to continue to engage key stakeholders, including the host Government, the African Union and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in safeguarding the heritage conservation objective;
9. *Requests* the Secretary General to make additional efforts to raise global awareness of the historic Africa Hall and the African heritage that it represents, and to cultivate partnerships with regional and international academic and research institutions, including universities and museums, specializing in African history and culture;
10. *Recalls* paragraph 22 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to provide an assessment of the potential number of visitors to Africa Hall, different admission options for various visitor groups, taking into account the ability to pay, as well as a more refined outreach strategy, following the completion of the renovation of Africa Hall and its visitors' centre, and to report his findings thereon in the context of the next progress report;
11. *Stresses* the importance of governance, effective oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within the approved budget and time schedule;
12. *Emphasizes* that the Office of Central Support Services should continue to be actively involved in overseeing the project to ensure the central supervision of capital projects, including risk management and alignment with lessons learned;
13. *Also emphasizes* the need for the Office of Internal Oversight Services to continue to provide oversight on the renovation of Africa Hall, as appropriate, and to continue to include information on key findings;
14. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to engage with the Stakeholders Committee, the Advisory Board and the host country to ensure coordination of efforts with the Economic Commission for Africa and the Office of Central Support Services to facilitate successful implementation of the project;
15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take appropriate measures to mitigate potential risks and to monitor closely the Africa Hall renovation project in order to avoid any further delay;
16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include an update on the management of the main risks and the related mitigation measures with a view to keeping the approved time frame of the project and avoiding cost overruns and to ensuring the delivery of the project within the scope, budget and timeline as approved by the General Assembly, and requests an update in the context of the next progress report;
17. *Stresses* the importance of including energy efficiencies in project planning and implementation, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to include in the next progress report information on the envisaged energy efficiency gains and resulting cost savings;



18. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to take prudent measures to control cost overruns, such as expenses relating to official travel, so that expenditures would remain within the planned operational budget of the project in compliance with the relevant Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;<sup>96</sup>

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that resource requirements at each stage of the project are based on a thorough review of actual and up-to-date needs on the ground and to provide detailed information in the context of future progress reports;

20. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at the main part of its seventy-fourth session, a progress report on the implementation of the construction projects and the renovation of the conference facilities, including Africa Hall and the visitors' centre, outlining, inter alia, project expenditure and total costs;

21. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to engage with the host country and to provide an update on the proposed parcel of land for visitors' parking in the context of the next progress report;

22. *Approves* an appropriation in the amount of 8,931,100 dollars for the project for 2019, comprising 964,500 dollars under section 18, Economic and social development in Africa, 7,937,600 dollars under section 33, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, and 29,000 dollars under section 34, Safety and security, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

## IX

### Progress in the replacement of office blocks A to J at the United Nations Office at Nairobi

*Recalling* section XIV of its resolution [72/262 A](#),

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General<sup>97</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>98</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>97</sup>

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>98</sup> subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Acknowledges* the important role played by the host country in facilitating the maintenance and construction of United Nations facilities in Nairobi, and stresses the value of continued collaboration with the host country in this regard;

4. *Expresses its gratitude* to the host country for its continued support to the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and trusts that the Secretary-General will continue to engage, as appropriate, with the host country as has been the practice with respect to other construction projects at the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to include local knowledge, technology, material and capacity, in particular the use of materials available and/or manufactured locally, throughout the implementation of the replacement of office blocks A to J at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, as appropriate;

6. *Stresses* the importance of governance, effective oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within the approved budget and time schedule;

7. *Emphasizes* that the Office of Central Support Services should continue to be actively involved in overseeing the project to ensure the central supervision of capital projects, including risk management and alignment with lessons learned;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through the Office of Central Support Services, to take into account lessons learned and best practices from similar past construction and renovation projects in the planning, design and implementation of the proposed replacement of office blocks A to J;

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<sup>96</sup> [ST/SGB/2013/4](#) and [ST/SGB/2013/4/Amend.1](#).

<sup>97</sup> [A/73/344](#).

<sup>98</sup> [A/73/426](#).

9. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to make every effort to implement measures to avoid any errors in the timelines of the project, given their potential impact on the costs and completion;

10. *Takes note* of paragraphs 25 (a) and (d) of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests an updated proposal, including refined information on scope, maximum overall cost and implementation strategy;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain proactive in seeking both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, in full compliance with all relevant rules and regulations of the Organization, and to provide detailed information on the matter in the context of the next progress report;

12. *Approves* the establishment of six positions (1 P-5, 1 P-3, 2 National Officer and 2 Local level) relating to the dedicated project management team and project support staff in Nairobi and one position (P-3) in New York to provide project coordination, to be based in the Global Property Management Service at Headquarters and cost-shared with the project for the renovation of the North Building at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

13. *Appropriates* an amount of 6.595 million dollars, comprising 765,500 dollars under section 29H, Administration, Nairobi, and 5,829,400 dollars under section 33, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

## X

### **Proposal for the renovation of the North Building at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in Santiago**

*Recalling* section VII of its resolution [69/274 A](#), section VI of its resolution [70/248 B](#) of 1 April 2016 and section V of its resolution [72/262 A](#),

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General<sup>99</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>100</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>99</sup>

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>100</sup> subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Acknowledges* the important role played by the host countries in facilitating the maintenance and construction of United Nations facilities, and stresses the value of continued collaboration with host countries in this regard;

4. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Chile, as the host country, for the continued efforts in supporting and facilitating the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

5. *Recalls* paragraph 4 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to remain proactive in seeking both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, in full compliance with all relevant regulations and rules of the Organization, and to provide detailed information on the matter in the context of the next progress report;

6. *Stresses* the importance of governance, effective oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within the approved budget and the time schedule;

7. *Emphasizes* that the Office of Central Support Services should continue to be actively involved in overseeing the project to ensure the central supervision of capital projects, including risk management and alignment with lessons learned;

8. *Recalls* paragraph 10 of the report of the Advisory Committee, welcomes the Secretary-General's intention to mitigate potential risks during the design phase, and requests the Secretary-General to include an update of the results of the Monte Carlo analysis in the next progress report;

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<sup>99</sup> [A/73/351](#).

<sup>100</sup> [A/73/457](#).

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9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further develop an energy efficiency strategy in regard to redirecting energy to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean compound, including returning surplus energy, if any, to the national grid;

10. *Recalls* paragraph 24 of the report of the Advisory Committee, notes with concern that certain essential components such as safety and security equipment were previously unknown, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the project delivers renovation works that conform to relevant building codes and standards, including provisions for persons with disabilities concerning accessibility and technology, seismic mitigation and workplace safety;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide more detailed information regarding the planned seismic mitigation measures in his future reports on the renovation of the North Building at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

12. *Recalls* paragraph 23 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to show travel-related costs as a separate line item in order to ensure transparency in the resource requirements;

13. *Also recalls* paragraph 28 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and in this regard:

(a) Approves the proposed overall scope of the project, its maximum cost and implementation strategy;

(b) Also approves the establishment of two temporary positions (Local level), effective 1 January 2019, within the dedicated project management team, under section 21, Economic and Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

(c) Notes that approval for the establishment of the position of Project Coordinator (P-3) has been sought in the context of the project for the replacement of office blocks A to J at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, with the joint funding of that position within the overall cost of both projects;

(d) Appropriates an amount of 676,700 dollars for the project in 2019, comprising 231,700 dollars under section 21, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and 445,000 dollars under section 33, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

(e) Approves the establishment of a multi-year construction-in-progress account for the project;

14. *Decides* to reduce swing space costs by 50,000 dollars;

15. *Also decides* to adjust the maximum project cost accordingly to reflect paragraph 14 above;

## XI

### First performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

*Having considered* the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019<sup>101</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>102</sup>

*Recalling* its resolutions 72/263 A to C of 24 December 2017, its resolutions 72/262 C and 72/266 B of 5 July 2018, and its decision 72/558 of 5 July 2018,

1. *Reaffirms* the budgetary process as approved in its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 42/211 of 21 December 1987 and reaffirmed in subsequent resolutions;

2. *Takes note* of the first performance report of the Secretary-General;<sup>101</sup>

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>102</sup> subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

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<sup>101</sup> A/73/493.

<sup>102</sup> A/73/625.

4. *Approves* a net increase of 109,801,400 dollars in the appropriation approved for the biennium 2018–2019 and a net decrease of 2,823,900 dollars in the estimates of income for the biennium 2018–2019, to be apportioned among expenditure and income sections as indicated in the first performance report of the Secretary-General;

## XII

### Financial implications relating to the administration of justice at the United Nations

*Recalling* its resolution [73/276](#) of 22 December 2018 on the administration of justice at the United Nations,

1. *Recalls* paragraph 22 of the report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>103</sup> decides to approve two new Legal Officer posts (P-3), one each in Geneva and Nairobi, one Legal Assistant post (General Service (Other level)) in Geneva and one Legal Assistant post (General Service (Local level)) in Nairobi in lieu of general temporary assistance positions, and decides to extend the Legal Officer post (P-3) and the Legal Assistant post (General Service (Other level)) in New York under general temporary assistance;

2. *Appropriates* an additional amount of 1,218,000 dollars, before recosting, reflecting an increase of 1,186,200 dollars under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, and 31,800 dollars under section 29B, Department of Operational Support;

3. *Also appropriates* the amount of 178,600 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

## XIII

### Strategic heritage plan of the United Nations Office at Geneva

*Recalling* part XI of its resolution [64/243](#), section VII of its resolution [66/247](#), section V of its resolution [68/247](#) A, sections III and VII of its resolution [69/262](#), section X of its resolution [70/248](#) A, section XVIII of its resolution [71/272](#) A and section XVI of its resolution [72/262](#) A,

*Having considered* the fifth annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the strategic heritage plan of the United Nations Office at Geneva,<sup>104</sup> the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Board of Auditors on the strategic heritage plan of the United Nations Office at Geneva<sup>105</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>106</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>104</sup>

2. *Also takes note* of the findings of the report of the Board of Auditors,<sup>105</sup> and endorses the recommendations contained therein;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>106</sup> subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Welcomes* the continued support of the Government of Switzerland for the construction project in Geneva;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the strategic heritage plan is fully completed within the project scope, schedule and overall cost approved in its resolution [70/248](#) A;

6. *Reaffirms* the proposed project scope, schedule and estimated cost of the strategic heritage plan in the maximum amount of 836,500,000 Swiss francs for the period from 2014 to 2023;

7. *Stresses* the importance of effective governance, oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the project objectives are achieved on time and within budget;

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<sup>103</sup> [A/73/428](#).

<sup>104</sup> [A/73/395](#).

<sup>105</sup> [A/73/157](#).

<sup>106</sup> [A/73/576](#).

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8. *Expresses concern* at the increased risks to the project schedule, and requests the Secretary-General to take mitigation measures in a timely manner in order to alleviate potential risks of delays;
9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make every effort to avoid budget increases through sound project management practices and to ensure that the strategic heritage plan is completed within the approved budget and the envisaged schedule;
10. *Takes note* of paragraphs 18 to 23 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides not to approve the installation of ventilation and cooling at the Palais des Nations in the strategic heritage plan project;
11. *Commends* the United Nations Office at Geneva for the efforts made towards eliminating barriers to persons with disabilities, encourages the Office to continue to pursue such efforts, and looks forward to receiving updates in this regard in future progress reports;
12. *Emphasizes* the commitment of Member States that the annual repayments of the loans to the host country will be effected in a full and timely manner;
13. *Decides* to continue to use the multi-year construction-in-progress account established within the regular budget for expenditures related to the strategic heritage plan in 2019;
14. *Also decides* to revert to the establishment of an assessment scheme and currency of appropriation and assessment for the strategic heritage plan at the main part of its seventy-fourth session, and requests the Secretary-General to provide updated detailed information on these issues;
15. *Further decides* to revert to the establishment of the multi-year special account for the strategic heritage plan at the main part of its seventy-fourth session;
16. *Appreciates* the existing voluntary contributions received from Member States to finance the strategic heritage plan, and requests the Secretary-General to remain proactive in seeking both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, as well as donations by private entities, in full compliance with all relevant rules and regulations of the Organization and agreements related to donations for the strategic heritage plan, in order to reduce the overall assessments on Member States;
17. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to continue to explore the possibility of attracting additional United Nations entities to be accommodated at the renovated Palais des Nations;
18. *Reiterates* that all income from the rental or valorization of land owned by the Organization in Geneva will be reflected under income section 2, General income, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;
19. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that works of art, masterpieces and other gifts are handled appropriately during the design and renovation stages of the strategic heritage plan at the Palais des Nations, and also requests him to cooperate with those Member States that wish to take care of their gifts of works of art, masterpieces and other items;
20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the procurement of goods and services for the construction project is carried out in strict compliance with the existing regulations, rules and relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions governing procurement in the United Nations;
21. *Recalls* paragraph 16 of its resolution [69/273](#) of 2 April 2015, reaffirms the importance of transparency in the procurement process, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the project team takes vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition fully into account when contracting and subcontracting and to report on the specific steps taken and progress achieved in the context of increasing procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the implementation of the strategic heritage plan;
22. *Decides* to appropriate the amount of 31,809,800 dollars (equivalent to 30,123,900 Swiss francs) for 2019, under section 33, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

**XIV**

**Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council**

*Recalling* section XIX of its resolution 71/272 A, section VII of its resolution 71/272 B of 6 April 2017, section XXII of its resolution 72/262 A and section II of its resolution 72/262 C, and its decision 72/558,

*Having considered* the reports of the Secretary-General<sup>107</sup> and the related reports of the Advisory Committee,<sup>108</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;<sup>107</sup>
2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee,<sup>108</sup> subject to the provisions of the present resolution;
3. *Affirms* that special political missions play a critical role in the maintenance of international peace and security;
4. *Reaffirms its commitment* to consider the review of the arrangements on the funding and backstopping of the special political missions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee, and expresses its commitment to consider this matter, with a view to making a decision, without prejudging the outcome, at the main part of its seventy-fourth session;
5. *Looks forward* to earlier consideration of the budgets of special political missions as part of the move to annual budgeting, and stresses the importance of the Advisory Committee considering the budgets of special political missions in sufficient time to allow the General Assembly the necessary time to make considered decisions;
6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present future budget proposals for the special political missions no later than the last week of October;
7. *Stresses* that finance serves as the foundation of and an important element underpinning United Nations governance;
8. *Recalls* its stipulation that the use of external consultants should be kept to an absolute minimum and that the Organization should utilize its in-house capacity to perform core activities or to fulfil functions that are recurrent over the long term;
9. *Underlines* the importance of the Secretary-General comprehensively reviewing the civilian staffing requirements for each special political mission, with particular attention to the feasibility of nationalizing Field Service posts and improving the ratio of substantive to support staff, in particular when there is a significant change in mandate or authorized force levels, to ensure that the civilian staffing structure is appropriate to effectively implement the current mission mandate and that it reflects staffing best practices across missions;
10. *Stresses* the importance of developing a comprehensive performance management system, and requests the Secretary-General to develop qualitative and quantitative indicators to help missions to measure progress in mandate implementation and to report thereon in the context of his next report;
11. *Recalls* paragraph 55 of the report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>109</sup> and requests the Secretary-General to review the functions of the Kuwait Joint Support Office and present his findings in the context of the next budget submissions;
12. *Decides* not to establish or abolish any posts or positions in the Kuwait Joint Support Office;

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<sup>107</sup> A/73/352, A/73/352/Corr.1, A/73/352/Add.1, A/73/352/Add.2, A/73/352/Add.2/Corr.1, A/73/352/Add.3, A/73/352/Add.4, A/73/352/Add.5, A/73/352/Add.6, A/73/352/Add.6/Corr.1 and A/73/352/Add.6/Corr.2.

<sup>108</sup> A/73/498, A/73/498/Add.1, A/73/498/Add.2, A/73/498/Add.3, A/73/498/Add.4, A/73/498/Add.5 and A/73/498/Add.6.

<sup>109</sup> A/73/498.



**Thematic cluster I: special and personal envoys, advisers and representatives of the Secretary-General**

**Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Cyprus**

13. *Decides* to approve the resources proposed by the Secretary-General for official travel for the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Cyprus;

**Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and South Sudan**

14. *Takes note* of the intention of the Secretary-General to expand the remit of the Special Envoy for the Sudan and South Sudan to cover the Horn of Africa region, and decides to appropriate resources at the same level as had been requested for the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and South Sudan;

**Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region**

15. *Decides* to approve the resources proposed by the Secretary-General for the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region;

**Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Burundi**

16. *Commends* the work done by the East African Community in facilitating mediation under the inter-Burundi dialogue to address the political challenges, supports the need for continued ownership by the East African Community of this process, and encourages the international community to continue to provide support, as appropriate;

17. *Decides* to abolish one position of Logistics Officer (P-3);

**Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Myanmar**

18. *Decides* to reduce the resources proposed for ground transportation by 50 per cent;

**Thematic cluster II: sanctions monitoring teams, groups and panels, and other entities and mechanisms**

19. *Takes note* of paragraph 20 of the report of the Advisory Committee;<sup>110</sup>

20. *Recalls* paragraph 16 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to provide a clear justification for the correlation between increased years of service and the potential for reduced security risks to the experts of the panels;

**Monitoring Group on Somalia and Eritrea**

21. *Notes* that the Monitoring Group on Somalia and Eritrea is no longer mandated, and decides not to approve the funding requested for the Monitoring Group;

**Implementation of Security Council resolution 2231 (2015)**

22. *Decides* to apply a 36.4 per cent vacancy rate for the positions in the implementation of Security Council resolution 2231 (2015) of 20 July 2015;

23. *Also decides* to accept the Secretary-General's proposed abolishment of one P-3 position and one General Service position;

**United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant**

24. *Recalls* paragraph 16 of the report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>111</sup> and requests the Secretary-General to incorporate any relevant proposals for the reassessment of organizational structures, staffing levels and resource requirements, taking into account actual experience on the ground, in the context of the next budget submission;

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<sup>110</sup> A/73/498/Add.2.

<sup>111</sup> A/73/498/Add.6.

25. *Decides* to establish one Finance Assistant (Local level) and two Human Resources Assistant (Local level) positions based in Baghdad;

26. *Also decides* to reduce the operational costs for the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant by 500,000 dollars;

**Thematic cluster III: Regional offices, offices in support of political processes and other missions**

27. *Decides* to reduce the resources for operational costs for cluster III special political missions by 3 per cent;

**United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel**

28. *Recalls* paragraph 5 of section XIX of its resolution [70/248](#) A, and decides to retain one position of Finance and Budget Assistant (Local level) as a general temporary assistance position until 31 December 2019;

**United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia**

29. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General in the preparation of the elections which will be held in 2020;

30. *Takes note* of paragraph 19 of the report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>112</sup> and decides to establish two Electoral Officer (P-4), two Associate Electoral Officer (National Officer) and one Administrative Assistant (Local level) general temporary assistance positions;

**United Nations Support Mission in Libya**

31. *Takes note* of paragraph 23 of the report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>112</sup> and decides to retain the positions of one Human Resources Officer (National Professional Officer) and one Human Resources Assistant (Local level);

**United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia**

32. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing work of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia;

**United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan**

33. *Decides* to reduce the resources for operational costs for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan by 3 per cent;

**United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq**

34. *Decides* to reduce the resources for operational costs for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq by 3 per cent;

35. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote the nationalization of positions, whenever appropriate, as well as to build local capacity within the Mission, and to report thereon in the context of future budget submissions;

36. *Recalls* paragraph 7 of the report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>113</sup> and stresses that administrative support provided by the Mission to the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant should be provided on a reimbursable basis;

37. *Decides* to abolish all posts that have been vacant for more than two years as of 1 January 2019;

38. *Takes note* of paragraph 15 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides not to establish three positions of Human Rights Officer (National Professional Officer);

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<sup>112</sup> [A/73/498/Add.3](#).

<sup>113</sup> [A/73/498/Add.5](#).

39. *Recalls* paragraph 17 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides not to abolish seven National Professional Officer positions;

40. *Approves* the budgets in the amount of 651,239,200 dollars for the 36 continuing special political missions authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council, and an amount of 595,500 dollars for the share of special political missions in the budget of the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda, for the biennium 2018–2019;

41. *Also approves* a charge of 476,091,300 dollars against the provision for special political missions, corresponding to the balance in the provision, under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, including a charge to the provision of the estimated overexpenditure in 2018 amounting to 6,810,000 dollars;

42. *Decides* to appropriate, under the procedures provided for in paragraph 11 of annex I to resolution [41/213](#), an additional amount of 182,553,400 dollars under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

43. *Also decides* to appropriate an amount of 12,568,300 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

## XV

### **Revised estimates relating to the resident coordinator system under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination**

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General<sup>114</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>115</sup>

*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,

*Reiterating* that adequate, predictable and sustainable funding of the resident coordinator system is essential to delivering a coherent, effective, efficient and accountable response in accordance with national needs and priorities, and recalling the provisions contained in paragraph 10 of resolution [72/279](#),

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>114</sup>

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;<sup>115</sup>

3. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters, and reaffirms the role of the Fifth Committee in carrying out a thorough analysis and approving human and financial resources and policies, with a view to ensuring full, effective and efficient implementation of all mandated programmes and activities and the implementation of policies in this regard;

4. *Also reaffirms* rule 153 of its rules of procedure;

5. *Further 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 for Sustainable Development<sup>116</sup> and in line with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and national leadership and ownership;

6. *Welcomes* the strong commitment of the Secretary-General to redeploy efficiency gains from United Nations development reform for development activities, including coordination, and requests the Secretary-General to report on these redeployments through agreed reporting;

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<sup>114</sup> [A/73/424](#).

<sup>115</sup> [A/73/579](#).

<sup>116</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

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7. *Also welcomes* the transparent provision by the Secretary-General of the full budget of the resident coordinator system in annex II to his report, and looks forward to the same level of transparency in future submissions for information purposes;
8. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to ensure that funding for the resident coordinator system does not adversely impact other development-related resources financed from assessed contributions of the United Nations;
9. *Appreciates* the voluntary contributions made to the trust fund thus far, and encourages more voluntary contributions, as appropriate;
10. *Recalls* paragraph 15 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and recommends that the Secretary-General manage the special purpose trust fund in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;<sup>96</sup>
11. *Notes* that the governing body of each member organization will continue to approve the resources related to that organization's contribution to the cost-sharing arrangement;
12. *Recalls* paragraph 14 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and looks forward to the annual report of the Secretary-General foreseen in resolution [72/279](#);
13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to inform Member States on existing and potential funding gaps of the resident coordinator system;
14. *Stresses* that all extrabudgetary posts must be administered and managed with the same rigour as regular budget posts;
15. *Welcomes* the Secretary-General's undertaking to achieve geographical balance and gender parity among resident coordinators, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon through agreed reporting;
16. *Looks forward* to the new cost-sharing formula for 2021 onwards to be presented to the Advisory Committee, the Fifth Committee and the respective governing bodies of the member entities of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group in 2020, reflecting the direct involvement of each agency, based on the proportion of services used;
17. *Appropriates* an additional amount of 13,571,800 dollars, as a grant to the special purpose trust fund in 2019, under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, and requests the Secretary-General to provide information on the use of this assessed contribution;

## XVI

### **Administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for the year 2018**

*Having considered* the statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly<sup>117</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>118</sup>

1. *Recalls* its resolution [73/273](#) of 22 December 2018;
2. *Takes note* of the statement submitted by the Secretary-General;<sup>117</sup>
3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;<sup>118</sup>

## XVII

### **Enterprise resource planning project, Umoja**

*Recalling* section II of its resolution [60/283](#) of 7 July 2006, section II of its resolution [63/262](#) of 24 December 2008, its resolution [64/243](#), section II.A of its resolution [65/259](#), its resolution [66/246](#) of 24 December 2011, section III of its resolution [66/263](#) of 21 June 2012, section III of its resolution [67/246](#), its resolution [68/246](#) of

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<sup>117</sup> [A/C.5/73/2](#).

<sup>118</sup> [A/73/446](#).

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27 December 2013, sections IV and VI of its resolution [69/274 A](#), section XVII of its resolution [70/248 A](#), section XIV of its resolution [71/272 A](#) and section XXI of its resolution [72/262 A](#),

*Having considered* the tenth progress report of the Secretary-General on the enterprise resource planning project,<sup>119</sup> the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the seventh annual progress report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of the United Nations enterprise resource planning system<sup>120</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>121</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General<sup>119</sup> and the note by the Secretary-General;<sup>120</sup>
2. *Also takes note* of the findings of the report of the Board of Auditors,<sup>120</sup> and endorses the recommendations contained therein;
3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>121</sup> subject to the provisions of the present resolution;
4. *Highlights* the investments made by Member States, and expresses concern that the projected total expenditure for the Umoja project has more than doubled from the initial estimate of 248.3 million dollars in 2007, to 543.96 million dollars in 2019, and that the total cost of ownership has been revised, in 2018, upwards to 1.414 billion dollars by 2030;
5. *Notes* the conclusion of the Board of Auditors in paragraph 1 of the summary of its report that Umoja remains central to the successful reform and modernization of the administration of the United Nations;
6. *Reiterates* that the successful implementation of Umoja requires the full support and commitment of senior management, as well as close and continuous engagement with key stakeholders, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure this through performance management and accountability mechanisms, especially at senior levels;
7. *Welcomes* the expansion of the Umoja user base to 46,500 users across 420 locations, and notes that this is a significant achievement;
8. *Recognizes* the progress made towards the completion of full deployment of the Umoja project and the concurrent decrease in Umoja-related incidents;
9. *Regrets* the delay in the full implementation of Umoja Extension 2, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to implement the project within the approved timeline and budget and to provide detailed information on the full implementation of the Umoja solution no later than at the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly;
10. *Recalls* paragraphs 10 and 29 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and in this regard reiterates the need for strict project planning and management in order to ensure that the Umoja project remains on track without further disruption and delay and further requests a comprehensive update in the next progress report on the remaining solutions of the supply chain management project;
11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide a detailed update on progress towards project finalization and an update on project expenditures in the next progress report;
12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General in his roll-out plan for the implementation of Umoja to ensure the Organization's readiness for business change in order to avoid unforeseen impacts and unnecessary additional post-implementation reviews that could lead to deviations from the project's plans, cost projections and expected benefits;
13. *Recalls* paragraphs 16 and 17 of the report of the Advisory Committee, urges the Secretary-General to expedite the completion of a realistic benefit realization plan and to establish a clear and transparent record of the realization of qualitative and quantitative Umoja benefits, taking fully into account the relevant recommendations of the Board of Auditors, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon in the next progress report, without prejudice to established budgetary procedures and the prerogative of the Fifth Committee, which is entrusted with responsibility for administrative and budgetary matters;

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<sup>119</sup> [A/73/389](#).

<sup>120</sup> [A/73/169](#).

<sup>121</sup> [A/73/607](#).

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14. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, in developing realistic benefit realization plans for implementing entities, to use a common methodology and provide details on both qualitative and quantitative benefits, and the assumptions and processes underlying the benefit process, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-fourth session;

15. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen in-house capacity and expertise on the enterprise resource planning system and to ensure the transfer of knowledge from consultants to programme and project staff, ensuring that knowledge acquired is maintained within the Organization and reducing dependency on and resource requirements for contractual services, which represent a large proportion of project costs, and to provide detailed information thereon in the context of his next report;

16. *Recalls* paragraph 26 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to provide a detailed plan for the mainstreaming of the Umoja team into the Secretariat, including measures to ensure a sustainable business model of the Umoja project, in the context of his next report;

17. *Reaffirms* the importance of effective and high-quality training for the successful implementation of Umoja, requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that senior managers adopt a comprehensive and sustained approach to training and capacity development in their work units and make certain that all users are properly trained before the deployment of any functionality of the project, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to adopt appropriate qualitative and quantitative indicators of achievement to assess the effectiveness of the training received;

18. *Acknowledges* the steps taken thus far to address gaps in training, including the launch of a new online learning platform, and requests the Secretary-General to provide further information on the cost-efficiency and effectiveness of the revised training strategy and the new online learning platform in the context of his next report;

19. *Reaffirms* the importance of continuous improvements and change control as the project matures within the approved project timeline and budget;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to achieve the project's objectives and full implementation of the project by December 2019;

21. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring that lessons learned from previous deployments continue to be fully taken into account in preparing future roll-outs in order to ensure smoother deployments and avoid extensive stabilization efforts that would result in further delays, cost escalation and other risks, and encourages the Secretary-General to incorporate such lessons learned in his planning and preparations for all phases of the project;

22. *Notes* the need for better coordination among the Office of Human Resources Management, the Office of Information and Communications Technology and the Umoja office, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that continuing access to Umoja by all separated and retired employees is terminated immediately, except for self-service requirements as needed;

23. *Also notes* the effort made by the Secretary-General to estimate the indirect costs and total cost of ownership of the project, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to update the business case for the Umoja project, refine the estimates of the total cost of ownership of the project and provide detailed information on the maintenance requirements of Umoja after the full deployment of Umoja Extension 2, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-fourth session;

24. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make every effort to eliminate cost overruns through efficiency measures and sound project management and to avoid any further upward revision of the budget during the remaining project schedule, up to the time at which Umoja is fully deployed;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts, in negotiating with Umoja-related vendors, including providers of enterprise resource planning software, to ensure cost efficiencies and best value-for-money in Umoja-related procurement for the Organization;

26. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the procurement process for all Umoja-related services contracts is conducted in full compliance with general procurement principles as set out in the relevant financial regulations and rules and to explore the option of awarding a contract to multiple vendors as part of the Umoja-related procurement process to allow for greater competition among selected vendors;



27. *Notes* that the deployment of all Umoja Extension 2 solutions will be completed by the end of 2019, and requests the Secretary-General to consider, from 2019, the possibility of downgrading the post of the Assistant Secretary-General;

28. *Approves* the resource requirements of the project until 31 December 2019 in the amount of 15,515,600 dollars as presented in the tenth progress report;

#### **Programme budget**

29. *Approves* an amount of 2,138,800 dollars under the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 under component 1, Office of the Under-Secretary-General, of subsection 29A, Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance, representing the additional regular budget share for the Umoja project costs until 31 December 2019;

#### **Support account for peacekeeping operations**

30. *Notes* that resource requirements in the amount of 9,757,200 dollars will be included in the subsequent requirements for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the financial period from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020;

#### **Extrabudgetary resources**

31. *Notes* that requirements in the amount of 3,619,600 dollars will be funded from extrabudgetary resources in the period from 1 January to 31 December 2019;

### **XVIII**

#### **Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its thirty-seventh, thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth sessions and twenty-eighth special session**

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General<sup>122</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>123</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>122</sup>

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>123</sup> subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Approves* the establishment of one P-3 temporary post under section 24, Human rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, with effect from 1 January 2019;

4. *Appropriates* an additional amount of 27,940,000 dollars, comprising 1,406,400 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, 11,120,400 dollars under section 8, Legal affairs, 15,232,500 dollars under section 24, Human rights, 180,700 dollars under section 29F, Administration, Geneva, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

5. *Also appropriates* an amount of 60,000 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

### **XIX**

#### **Contingency fund**

*Notes* that a balance of 110,900 dollars remains in the contingency fund.

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<sup>122</sup> [A/73/477](#) and [A/73/477/Corr.1](#).

<sup>123</sup> [A/73/637](#).

RESOLUTIONS 73/280 A to C

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/686, para. 60)

73/280. Programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

A

Revised budget appropriations for the biennium 2018–2019

*The General Assembly*

Resolves that, for the biennium 2018–2019, the amount of 5,396,427,500 United States dollars appropriated by it in its resolutions 72/263 A of 24 December 2017 and 72/262 C and 72/266 B of 5 July 2018 shall be adjusted by budget appropriations of 415,370,300 dollars, as follows:

Section				
		Amount approved in resolutions 72/263 A to C, 72/262 C and 72/266 B)	Increase/ (decrease)	Revised appropriation
(United States dollars)				
<b>Part I. Overall policymaking, direction and coordination</b>				
1.	Overall policymaking direction and coordination	119 854 000	17 441 900	137 295 900
2.	General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management	625 634 900	15 844 800	641 479 700
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>745 488 900</b>	<b>33 286 700</b>	<b>778 775 600</b>
<b>Part II. Political affairs</b>				
3.	Political affairs	1 230 981 500	188 011 100	1 418 992 600
4.	Disarmament	24 332 800	956 600	25 289 400
5.	Peacekeeping operations	101 620 400	4 504 600	106 125 000
6.	Peaceful uses of outer space	7 616 200	179 500	7 795 700
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1 364 550 900</b>	<b>193 651 800</b>	<b>1 558 202 700</b>
<b>Part III. International justice and law</b>				
7.	International Court of Justice	47 792 500	1 756 700	49 549 200
8.	Legal affairs	50 311 200	22 757 000	73 068 200
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>98 103 700</b>	<b>24 513 700</b>	<b>122 617 400</b>
<b>Part IV. International cooperation for development</b>				
9.	Economic and social affairs	159 560 400	2 757 300	162 317 700
10.	Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States	10 736 400	171 800	10 908 200
11.	United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development	16 116 400	302 600	16 419 000
12.	Trade and development	130 694 300	4 784 100	135 478 400
13.	International Trade Centre	37 354 000	–	37 354 000
14.	Environment	39 603 700	925 700	40 529 400
15.	Human settlements	20 971 900	1 531 000	22 502 900
16.	International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice	39 688 200	1 100 600	40 788 800
17.	UN-Women	16 304 000	240 100	16 544 100
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>471 029 300</b>	<b>11 813 200</b>	<b>482 842 500</b>

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Section	Amount approved in resolutions 72/263 A to C, 72/262 C and 72/266 B)				Increase/ (decrease)	Revised appropriation
	(United States dollars)					
Part V. Regional cooperation for development						
18.	Economic and social development in Africa	157 539 100	6 769 600	164 308 700		
19.	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	99 570 400	5 676 500	105 246 900		
20.	Economic development in Europe	61 723 600	1 959 800	63 683 400		
21.	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	112 450 200	4 362 900	116 813 100		
22.	Economic and social development in Western Asia	73 466 000	(90 300)	73 375 700		
23.	Regular programme of technical cooperation	65 808 900	7 700	65 816 600		
Subtotal		570 558 200	18 686 200	589 244 400		
Part VI. Human rights and humanitarian affairs						
24.	Human rights	202 779 100	27 242 800	230 021 900		
25.	International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees	86 106 200	27 500	86 133 700		
26.	Palestine refugees	56 863 300	(1 899 000)	54 964 300		
27.	Humanitarian assistance	33 055 100	489 300	33 544 400		
Subtotal		378 803 700	25 860 600	404 664 300		
Part VII. Public information						
28.	Public information	177 359 500	4 817 700	182 177 200		
Subtotal		177 359 500	4 817 700	182 177 200		
Part VIII. Common support services						
29A. (2018)	Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management	9 707 900	152 300	9 860 200		
29B. (2018)	Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts	16 864 400	331 000	17 195 400		
29C. (2018)	Office of Human Resources Management	31 657 200	405 000	32 062 200		
29D. (2018)	Office of Central Support Services	74 465 300	887 800	75 353 100		
29E. (2018)	Office of Information and Communications Technology, Department of Management	47 458 700	559 700	48 018 400		
29F.	Administration, Geneva	133 086 300	3 638 600	136 724 900		
29G.	Administration, Vienna	36 662 100	805 300	37 467 400		
29H.	Administration, Nairobi	29 835 400	2 459 400	32 294 800		
29A. (2019)	Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance	52 230 400	2 923 200	55 153 600		
29B. (2019)	Department of Operational Support	89 215 500	7 756 700	96 972 200		
29C. (2019)	Office of Information and Communications Technology	47 253 600	580 700	47 834 300		
Subtotal		568 436 800	20 499 700	588 936 500		
Part IX. Internal oversight						
30.	Internal oversight	39 972 000	777 000	40 749 000		
Subtotal		39 972 000	777 000	40 749 000		

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Section		Amount approved in resolutions 72/263 A to C, 72/262 C and 72/266 B)	Increase/ (decrease)	Revised appropriation
		(United States dollars)		
Part X. <i>Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses</i>				
31.	Jointly financed administrative activities	12 339 200	19 600	12 358 800
32.	Special expenses	131 902 100	—	131 902 100
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>144 241 300</b>	<b>19 600</b>	<b>144 260 900</b>
Part XI. <i>Capital expenditures</i>				
33.	Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	80 616 500	49 440 800	130 057 300
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>80 616 500</b>	<b>49 440 800</b>	<b>130 057 300</b>
Part XII. <i>Safety and security</i>				
34.	Safety and security	233 966 000	8 946 700	242 912 700
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>233 966 000</b>	<b>8 946 700</b>	<b>242 912 700</b>
Part XIII. <i>Development Account</i>				
35.	Development Account	28 398 800	—	28 398 800
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>28 398 800</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>28 398 800</b>
Part XIV. <i>Staff assessment</i>				
36.	Staff assessment	494 901 900	23 056 600	517 958 500
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>494 901 900</b>	<b>23 056 600</b>	<b>517 958 500</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>5 396 427 500</b>	<b>415 370 300</b>	<b>5 811 797 800</b>

### B

#### Revised income estimates for the biennium 2018–2019

##### *The General Assembly*

*Resolves* that, for the biennium 2018–2019, the estimates of income of 552,311,800 United States dollars approved by it in its resolutions 72/263 A of 24 December 2017 and 72/262 C and 72/266 B of 5 July 2018 shall be increased by 10,175,500 dollars, as follows:

	Income estimates	Increase/(decrease)	Revised estimates
(Thousands of United States dollars)			
Income section 1	498 969.9	23 132.6	522 102.5
Income section 2	49 171.7	(5 497.5)	43 674.2
Income section 3	4 170.2	(7 459.6)	(3 289.4)
<b>Total</b>	<b>552 311.8</b>	<b>10 175.5</b>	<b>562 487.3</b>

### C

#### Financing of the appropriations for the year 2019

##### *The General Assembly*

*Resolves* that, for the year 2019:

1. Budget appropriations totalling 3,113,344,150 United States dollars and consisting of 2,698,453,650 dollars, being half of the appropriation initially approved for the biennium 2018–2019 by the General Assembly in its

resolution [72/263](#) A of 24 December 2017, the reduced amount of 479,800 dollars for the biennium appropriated in its resolutions [72/262](#) C and [72/266](#) B of 5 July 2018, and 415,370,300 dollars, being the increase approved in resolution A above, shall be financed in accordance with regulations 3.1 and 3.2 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,<sup>124</sup> as follows:

- (a) 48,768,250 dollars, consisting of:
    - (i) 26,670,950 dollars, being half of the estimated income other than staff assessment income approved for the biennium in its resolution [72/263](#) B of 24 December 2017;
    - (ii) 12,957,100 dollars, being the decrease in income other than staff assessment income approved for the biennium in resolution B above;
    - (iii) 6,482,500 dollars, being the increase in income other than staff assessment income for the biennium 2016–2017, compared with the revised estimates approved by the Assembly in its resolutions [72/253](#) A and B of 24 December 2017;
    - (iv) 28,571,900 dollars, being the surplus resulting from the final expenditure for the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;
  - (b) 3,064,575,900 dollars, being the assessment on Member States in accordance with its resolution [73/271](#) of 22 December 2018 on the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations;
2. There shall be set off against the assessment on Member States, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution [973 \(X\)](#) of 15 December 1955, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the total amount of 276,349,450 dollars, consisting of:
- (a) 249,484,950 dollars, being half of the estimated staff assessment income approved by the Assembly in its resolution [72/263](#) B;
  - (b) 23,132,600 dollars, being the estimated increase in income from staff assessment approved by the Assembly in resolution B above;
  - (c) 3,731,900 dollars, being the increase in income from staff assessment for the biennium 2016–2017, compared with the revised estimates approved by the Assembly in its resolutions [72/253](#) A and B.

### RESOLUTION 73/281

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/687](#), para. 9)

#### **73/281. Shifting the management paradigm in the United Nations**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [72/266](#) A of 24 December 2017 and [72/266](#) B of 5 July 2018,

*Commending* the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to enhance the management of the Secretariat,

*Recognizing* that human resources management is pivotal to the delivery of mandates entrusted by the General Assembly,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Shifting the management paradigm in the United Nations: comparative assessment of human resources structures”<sup>125</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,<sup>126</sup>

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<sup>124</sup> [ST/SGB/2013/4](#) and [ST/SGB/2013/4/Amend.1](#).

<sup>125</sup> [A/73/366](#).

<sup>126</sup> [A/73/411](#).

## VI. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee

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1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>125</sup>
2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;<sup>126</sup>
3. *Approves* the proposal contained in the report of the Secretary-General;
4. *Emphasizes* the necessity of ensuring regular and direct engagement between the Department of Operational Support and the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance to ensure that policies are calibrated and more responsive to the operational needs of all Secretariat entities, including in the field;
5. *Recalls* paragraph 28 of its resolution [72/266](#) B, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his review the human resources functions, including an assessment of progress achieved towards equitable geographical representation, bearing in mind Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations.



## VII. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Sixth Committee

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**RESOLUTION 73/196**

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/549, para. 9)<sup>1</sup>

**73/196. Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 59/281 of 29 March 2005, in which it endorsed the recommendation of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations that the Secretary-General make available to the United Nations membership a comprehensive report on the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations,<sup>2</sup>

*Recalling also* that the Secretary-General, on 24 March 2005, transmitted to the President of the General Assembly a report of his Adviser concerning sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations peacekeeping personnel,<sup>3</sup>

*Recalling further* its resolution 59/300 of 22 June 2005, in which it endorsed the recommendation of the Special Committee that a group of legal experts be established to provide advice on the best way to proceed so as to ensure that the original intent of the Charter of the United Nations can be achieved, namely, that United Nations staff and experts on mission would never be effectively exempt from the consequences of criminal acts committed at their duty station, nor unjustly penalized, without due process,<sup>4</sup>

*Underlining* the importance of a zero-tolerance policy for misconduct and the commission of crimes by United Nations officials and experts on mission,

*Recognizing* the valuable contribution of United Nations officials and experts on mission towards the fulfilment of the purposes and principles of the Charter,

*Reaffirming* the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international law,

*Reaffirming also* that the present resolution is without prejudice to the privileges and immunities of United Nations officials and experts on mission and the United Nations under international law,

*Reaffirming further* the obligation of United Nations officials and experts on mission to respect the national laws of the host State, as well as the right of the host State to exercise, where applicable, its criminal jurisdiction, in accordance with the relevant rules of international law and agreements governing operations of United Nations missions,

*Underlining* the importance of appropriate training of United Nations officials and experts on mission to prevent any criminal conduct,

*Deeply concerned* by reports of criminal conduct, and conscious that such conduct, if not investigated and, as appropriate, prosecuted, would create the negative impression that United Nations officials and experts on mission operate with impunity,

*Reaffirming* the need to ensure that all United Nations officials and experts on mission function in a manner that preserves the image, credibility, impartiality and integrity of the United Nations,

*Emphasizing* that crimes committed by such persons are unacceptable and have a detrimental effect on the fulfilment of the mandate of the United Nations, in particular with respect to the relations between the United Nations and the local population in the host country,

*Conscious* of the critical importance of providing expeditious support and protecting the rights of victims of criminal conduct perpetrated by United Nations officials and experts on mission, as well as of ensuring adequate protection for witnesses, and recalling the adoption of its resolution 62/214 of 21 December 2007 on the United

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<sup>1</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Pakistan on behalf of the Bureau.

<sup>2</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 19 (A/59/19/Rev.1)*, part one, chap. III, sect. D, para. 56.

<sup>3</sup> See A/59/710.

<sup>4</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 19 (A/59/19/Rev.1)*, part two, chap. II, sect. N, para. 40 (a).

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Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel, as well as of its resolution [71/297](#) of 30 June 2017 on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse,

*Emphasizing* that genuine accountability rests on the cooperation of the Member States,

*Emphasizing also* the need to enhance international cooperation to ensure the criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

*Taking note* of the report of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations on uniting our strengths for peace: politics, partnership and people,<sup>5</sup> and of the subsequent report of the Secretary-General entitled “The future of United Nations peace operations: implementation of the recommendations of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations”,<sup>6</sup>

*Taking note also* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on fraud prevention, detection and response in United Nations system organizations,<sup>7</sup> the Anti-Fraud and Anti-Corruption Framework of the United Nations Secretariat of September 2016<sup>8</sup> and the report of the Secretary-General on his practice in disciplinary matters and cases of possible criminal behaviour for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2017,<sup>9</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution [61/29](#) of 4 December 2006, by which it established the Ad Hoc Committee on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

*Having considered* at its previous sessions the report of the Group of Legal Experts established by the Secretary-General pursuant to its resolution [59/300](#)<sup>10</sup> and the reports of the Ad Hoc Committee,<sup>11</sup> as well as the note by the Secretariat<sup>12</sup> and the reports of the Secretary-General<sup>13</sup> on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

*Recalling* its resolutions [62/63](#) of 6 December 2007, [63/119](#) of 11 December 2008, [64/110](#) of 16 December 2009, [65/20](#) of 6 December 2010, [66/93](#) of 9 December 2011, [67/88](#) of 14 December 2012, [68/105](#) of 16 December 2013, [69/114](#) of 10 December 2014, [70/114](#) of 14 December 2015, [71/134](#) of 13 December 2016 and [72/112](#) of 7 December 2017,

*Noting* the oral report of the Chair of the working group of the Sixth Committee on its work during the seventy-third session,<sup>14</sup>

*Convinced* of the continuing need for the United Nations and its Member States to urgently take strong and effective steps to ensure the criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission in the interest of justice,

*Emphasizing* that the development of harmonized United Nations standards of investigation of crimes allegedly committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission can be critical to strengthening the United Nations system of accountability,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General,<sup>15</sup> in particular annexes I and II to the report submitted pursuant to paragraphs 30 and 31 of its resolution [72/112](#),<sup>16</sup> which provide additional information on the nature of the

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<sup>5</sup> See [A/70/95-S/2015/446](#).

<sup>6</sup> [A/70/357-S/2015/682](#).

<sup>7</sup> [A/71/731](#).

<sup>8</sup> [ST/IC/2016/25](#), annex.

<sup>9</sup> [A/73/71](#).

<sup>10</sup> [A/60/980](#).

<sup>11</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 54 (A/62/54)*; and *ibid.*, *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 54 (A/63/54)*.

<sup>12</sup> [A/62/329](#).

<sup>13</sup> [A/63/260](#), [A/63/260/Add.1](#), [A/64/183](#), [A/64/183/Add.1](#), [A/65/185](#), [A/66/174](#), [A/66/174/Add.1](#), [A/67/213](#), [A/68/173](#), [A/69/210](#), [A/70/208](#), [A/72/121](#), [A/72/126](#), [A/72/205](#), [A/73/128](#), [A/73/129](#) and [A/73/155](#).

<sup>14</sup> See [A/C.6/73/SR.33](#).

<sup>15</sup> [A/73/128](#), [A/73/129](#) and [A/73/155](#).

<sup>16</sup> [A/73/129](#).

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allegations and information received from States on all referrals since 1 July 2007 and notifications received from States with respect to investigations or prosecutions of crimes allegedly committed by United Nations officials or experts on mission since 1 July 2016;

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse,<sup>17</sup> as well as the findings of the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat in its evaluation report of 15 May 2015, including on the issue of underreporting;<sup>18</sup>

3. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Secretary-General to refer credible allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse to the Member State of the United Nations officials or experts on mission for appropriate action;

4. *Also welcomes* the work of the Special Coordinator on Improving the United Nations Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, and requests the Secretary-General to regularly update Member States on progress with respect to the implementation of the mandate of the Special Coordinator;

5. *Expresses its concern* with respect to all alleged crimes on the part of United Nations officials and experts on mission, including allegations of fraud, corruption and other financial crimes, and in that regard welcomes the reaffirmation by the Secretary-General that there will be no tolerance for any corruption at the United Nations;

6. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that his zero-tolerance policy for criminal activities, such as sexual exploitation and abuse, fraud and corruption, is made known to all United Nations officials and experts on mission at all levels, especially those in managerial positions, and is fully implemented in a coherent and coordinated manner throughout the United Nations, including funds and programmes, and calls upon all entities in the United Nations to inform and to cooperate fully with the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat in all cases involving allegations that a crime may have been committed by a United Nations official or expert on mission;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure greater quality and consistency in investigations by investigative entities of the Organization through the development of harmonized standards of investigation, including verification of allegations and information received;

8. *Expresses its concern* with respect to the low rate of response from States to referred allegations and to requests for information on their provisions addressing the establishment of jurisdiction over crimes, as urged in its resolution 72/112, and in particular expresses its deep concern with regard to the significant number of instances where States to which allegations have been referred have failed to advise the United Nations of any steps taken in response to such referrals, and also with regard to the failure to acknowledge such referrals;

9. *Strongly urges* States to take all appropriate measures to ensure that crimes by United Nations officials and experts on mission do not go unpunished and that the perpetrators of such crimes are brought to justice, without prejudice to the privileges and immunities of such persons and the United Nations under international law, and in accordance with international human rights standards, including due process;

10. *Strongly urges* all States to consider establishing, to the extent that they have not yet done so, jurisdiction over crimes, particularly those of a serious nature, as known in their existing national criminal laws, committed by their nationals while serving as United Nations officials or experts on mission, at least where the conduct as defined in the law of the State establishing jurisdiction also constitutes a crime under the laws of the host State, and, further, urges States and appropriate international organizations to provide technical and other appropriate assistance in developing such legal measures to States requesting such support;

11. *Encourages* all States and the United Nations to cooperate with each other in the exchange of information and in facilitating the conduct of investigations and, as appropriate, the prosecution of United Nations officials and experts on mission who are alleged to have committed crimes of a serious nature, in accordance with their national law and applicable United Nations rules and regulations, fully respecting due process rights, as well as to consider strengthening the capacities of their national authorities to investigate and prosecute such crimes;

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<sup>17</sup> A/72/751 and A/72/751/Corr.1.

<sup>18</sup> "Evaluation of the enforcement and remedial assistance efforts for sexual exploitation and abuse by the United Nations and related personnel in peacekeeping operations", as reissued on 12 June 2015.

12. *Encourages* all States:

(a) To afford each other assistance in connection with criminal investigations or criminal or extradition proceedings in respect of crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission, including assistance in obtaining evidence at their disposal, in accordance with their national law or any treaties or other arrangements on extradition and mutual legal assistance that may exist between them;

(b) In accordance with their national law, to explore ways and means of facilitating the possible use of information and material obtained from the United Nations for purposes of criminal proceedings initiated in their territory for the prosecution of crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission, bearing in mind due process considerations;

(c) In accordance with their national law, to provide effective protection for victims of, witnesses to and others who provide information in relation to crimes of a serious nature alleged to have been committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission and to facilitate access of victims to victim assistance programmes, without prejudice to the rights of the alleged offender, including those relating to due process;

(d) In accordance with their national law, to explore ways and means of responding adequately to requests by host States for support and assistance in order to enhance their capacity to conduct effective investigations in respect of crimes of a serious nature alleged to have been committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission;

13. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to ensure that requests to Member States seeking personnel to serve as experts on mission make States aware of the expectation that persons who serve in that capacity should meet high standards in their conduct and behaviour and be aware that certain conduct may amount to a crime for which they may be held accountable, and also requests that the Secretariat take all appropriate measures to continue to ensure that all such personnel, as well as United Nations officials, are properly vetted by the States contributing personnel and by the Organization for any prior misconduct while serving with the United Nations;

14. *Urges* the Secretary-General to make Member States contributing personnel to serve as experts on mission aware of the necessity of providing appropriate conduct-related training prior to deployment, and also urges the Secretary-General to continue to take such practical measures as are within his authority to strengthen existing training on United Nations standards of conduct, including through predeployment and in-mission induction training for United Nations officials and experts on mission;

15. *Reiterates* its decision that, bearing in mind its resolutions [62/63](#) and [63/119](#), the consideration of the report of the Group of Legal Experts,<sup>10</sup> in particular its legal aspects, taking into account the views of Member States and also noting the inputs by the Secretariat, shall be continued during its seventy-fifth session in the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee, and, for that purpose, invites further comments from Member States on that report, including on the question of future action;

16. *Takes note* of the briefings by the Secretariat during the seventieth, seventy-first, seventy-second and seventy-third sessions, and decides to organize another briefing at the seventy-fourth session with a view to furthering discussion on measures that could be taken to help to ensure the accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission and prevent future crimes;

17. *Recognizes* the efforts of Member States towards devising concrete proposals to ensure the accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission, and encourages all Member States to redouble their efforts informally during the intersessional period, with the support of the Secretariat, in particular through the organization of informal briefings;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring credible allegations that reveal that a crime may have been committed by a United Nations official or expert on mission to the attention of the States against whose nationals such allegations are made and to request from those States updates, as set out in paragraph 20 below, on the status of their efforts to investigate and, as appropriate, prosecute crimes of a serious nature, as well as the types of appropriate assistance that States may wish to receive from the Secretariat for the purposes of such investigations and prosecutions;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to seek, from all States that have notified the United Nations with respect to investigations or prosecutions of crimes allegedly committed by United Nations officials or experts on mission, updates on the status of their investigations or prosecutions, provided that this would not prejudice national investigations or national proceedings;

20. *Urges* the States referred to in paragraphs 18 and 19 above to provide to the Secretary-General periodic updates on their handling of the allegations, in order to demonstrate that Member States are taking steps to ensure accountability for crimes committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission, in particular by informing the Secretary-General of whether any disciplinary or criminal proceedings have been brought and of the outcome of any such proceedings or the reasons for not initiating them, provided that this would not be contrary to national laws or prejudice national investigations or national proceedings, and requests the Secretary-General to continue and undertake the necessary follow-up with the States concerned, by all appropriate forms of communication, with a view to encouraging those States to respond;

21. *Encourages* all States to provide to the Secretary-General a point of contact in order to strengthen and enable efficient communication and cooperation between the United Nations and Member States, and requests the Secretary-General to maintain and update a list of points of contact;

22. *Requests* the United Nations, when its investigations into allegations suggest that crimes of a serious nature may have been committed by United Nations officials or experts on mission, to consider any appropriate measures that may facilitate the possible use of information and material for purposes of criminal proceedings initiated by States, bearing in mind due process considerations;

23. *Encourages* the United Nations, when allegations against United Nations officials or experts on mission are determined by a United Nations administrative investigation to be unfounded, to take appropriate measures, in the interests of the Organization, to restore the credibility and the reputation of such officials and experts on mission;

24. *Urges* the United Nations to continue cooperating with States exercising jurisdiction in order to provide them, within the framework of the relevant rules of international law and agreements governing activities of the United Nations, with information and material for purposes of criminal proceedings initiated by States;

25. *Recalls* the Secretary-General's bulletin on protection against retaliation for reporting misconduct and for cooperating with duly authorized audits or investigations,<sup>19</sup> underlines the importance of a culture in which individuals are encouraged and supported by the Organization to report alleged crimes, emphasizes that the United Nations, in accordance with the applicable rules of the Organization, should take no action that would retaliate against or intimidate United Nations officials and experts on mission who report allegations concerning crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission, and stresses the need for appropriate safeguards against retaliation;

26. *Stresses* the critical importance of ensuring that victims of criminal conduct perpetrated by United Nations officials and experts on mission are made aware of available victim assistance and support, including from a gender perspective, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Sixth Committee on available victim assistance and support during the briefing at its seventy-fourth session;

27. *Takes note with appreciation* of the information provided by Governments in response to its resolutions 62/63, 63/119, 64/110, 65/20, 66/93, 67/88, 68/105, 69/114, 70/114, 71/134 and 72/112, and urges Governments to continue taking the measures necessary for the implementation of those resolutions, including their provisions addressing the establishment of jurisdiction over crimes, particularly those of a serious nature, as known in their existing national criminal laws, committed by their nationals while serving as United Nations officials or experts on mission, as well as cooperation among States, and to provide specific details thereon, in particular with respect to paragraph 10 above, in the information provided to the Secretary-General;

28. *Recalls its request* in resolution 72/112 for Governments to provide specific details on the measures taken, as necessary, for the implementation of its resolutions 62/63, 63/119, 64/110, 65/20, 66/93, 67/88, 68/105, 69/114, 70/114 and 71/134, and notes that, in response to those resolutions, 132 submissions and 16 questionnaire responses were received from 61 Member States between 6 December 2007 and 13 July 2018;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep up to date the online compilation of the full submissions and questionnaire responses as well as the online summary table of national provisions, based on information received from Member States since 2007, regarding the establishment of jurisdiction over their nationals whenever they serve as United Nations officials or experts on mission, in relation to crimes as known in their existing national criminal

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<sup>19</sup> [ST/SGB/2017/2/Rev.1](#).



laws, particularly those of a serious nature, and also requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report containing a general overview of national provisions, based on the information received, for the seventy-fifth session of the General Assembly, provided that sufficient information has been received from Member States;

30. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General setting out all relevant existing policies and procedures of the United Nations system regarding the allegations referred to in paragraphs 18 and 19 above,<sup>20</sup> and requests the Secretary-General to report on any updates to those policies and procedures and to develop recommendations to help to ensure that such policies and procedures relating to the reporting, investigation, referral and follow-up of credible allegations revealing that a crime may have been committed by a United Nations official or expert on mission are coherent, systematic and coordinated throughout the United Nations system;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular with respect to paragraphs 10, 12, 13, 15, 18, 20 and 30 above, as well as any practical problems in its implementation, on the basis of information received from Governments and the Secretariat;

32. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve reporting methods and expand the scope of reporting by providing information on the allegations referred to in paragraphs 18 and 19 above, as well as information received pursuant to paragraph 20 since 1 July 2007, limited to the United Nations entity involved, the year of referral, the dates and methods of follow-up requests from the Secretary-General, information about the type of crime and a summary of allegations, the status of investigations, prosecutorial and disciplinary actions taken, including with respect to individuals concerned who have left the duty mission or the service of the United Nations, any requests for waivers of immunity, as applicable, and information on jurisdictional, evidentiary or other obstacles to prosecution, while protecting the privacy of the victims as well as respecting the privacy and rights of those subject to the allegations;

33. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission”.

### RESOLUTION 73/197

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/496, para. 14)<sup>21</sup>

#### **73/197. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fifty-first session**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

*Reaffirming its belief* that the progressive modernization and harmonization of international trade law, in reducing or removing legal obstacles to the flow of international trade, especially those affecting developing countries, would contribute significantly to universal economic cooperation among all States on a basis of equality, equity, common interest and respect for the rule of law, to the elimination of discrimination in international trade and, thereby, to peace, stability and the well-being of all peoples,

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<sup>20</sup> A/73/155.

<sup>21</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Namibia, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and Ukraine.

*Having considered* the report of the Commission,<sup>22</sup>

*Reiterating its concern* that activities undertaken by other bodies in the field of international trade law without adequate coordination with the Commission might lead to undesirable duplication of efforts and would not be in keeping with the aim of promoting efficiency, consistency and coherence in the unification and harmonization of international trade law,

*Reaffirming* the mandate of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, to coordinate legal activities in this field, in particular to avoid duplication of efforts, including among organizations formulating rules of international trade, and to promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the modernization and harmonization of international trade law, and to continue, through its secretariat, to maintain close cooperation with other international organs and organizations, including regional organizations, active in the field of international trade law,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law;<sup>22</sup>

2. *Commends* the Commission for the finalization of the draft convention on international settlement agreements resulting from mediation;<sup>23</sup>

3. *Also commends* the Commission for the finalization and adoption of the Model Law on International Commercial Mediation and International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation,<sup>24</sup> the Legislative Guide on Key Principles of a Business Registry<sup>25</sup> and the Model Law on Recognition and Enforcement of Insolvency-Related Judgments and its Guide to Enactment;<sup>26</sup>

4. *Notes with appreciation* the event held to mark the sixtieth anniversary of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (the New York Convention of 1958),<sup>27</sup> at which it was acknowledged that the Convention, with its almost universal acceptance, brings legal certainty to business operations worldwide, thereby contributing to decreasing the level of risk and transactional costs associated with international trade, furthering the Sustainable Development Goals<sup>28</sup> and, by establishing a fundamental legal framework for the use of arbitration and its effectiveness, strengthens respect for binding commitments, inspires confidence in the rule of law and ensures fair treatment in the resolution of disputes arising over contractual rights and obligations;<sup>29</sup>

5. *Notes with satisfaction* the contributions from the Fund for International Development of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and from the European Commission, which allow the operation of the repository of published information under the Rules on Transparency in Treaty-based Investor-State Arbitration<sup>30</sup> and that the Commission reiterated its strong and unanimous opinion that the secretariat of the Commission should continue to operate the transparency repository, which constitutes a central feature both of the Rules on Transparency and of the United Nations Convention on Transparency in Treaty-based Investor-State Arbitration (Mauritius Convention on Transparency);<sup>31</sup>

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to operate, through the secretariat of the Commission, the repository of published information in accordance with article 8 of the Rules on Transparency, as a pilot project until the end of 2020, to be funded entirely by voluntary contributions, and to keep the General Assembly informed of developments regarding the funding and budgetary situation of the transparency repository based on its pilot operation;

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<sup>22</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/73/17).*

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. III, sect. B, and annex I.

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. III, sect. C, and annex II.

<sup>25</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. IV, sects. B and C.

<sup>26</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. V, sect. A, and annex III.

<sup>27</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 330, No. 4739.

<sup>28</sup> See resolution 70/1.

<sup>29</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/73/17)*, chap. X.

<sup>30</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/68/17)*, annex I.

<sup>31</sup> Resolution 69/116, annex.

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7. *Takes note with interest* of the decisions taken by the Commission as regards its future work and the progress made by the Commission in its work in the areas of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, dispute settlement, investor-State dispute settlement reform, electronic commerce, insolvency law and security interests and privately financed infrastructure projects,<sup>32</sup> as well as the decisions to take up work on expedited arbitration and, as its next priority, the judicial sale of ships, to conduct exploratory and preparatory work on warehouse receipts, to compile information on legal issues related to the digital economy aimed at enabling the commercial use of new technologies and methods and assisting developing economies in bridging the digital gap, and to undertake exploratory work on contractual networks and the civil law aspects of asset tracing and recovery,<sup>33</sup> and encourages the Commission to continue to move forward efficiently to achieve tangible work outcomes in those areas;

8. *Welcomes* the decision by the Commission to give Working Group IV a more specific mandate to conduct work on legal issues in the area of identity management and trust services with a view to facilitating cross-border recognition of identity management and trust services on the basis of the principles and issues identified by the Working Group at its fifty-sixth session,<sup>34</sup> and takes note of the decision of the Commission to request the Secretariat to prepare, within existing resources, a pilot online tool containing the draft notes on the main issues of cloud computing contracts, for consideration at its next session, in 2019;<sup>35</sup>

9. *Endorses* the efforts and initiatives of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, aimed at increasing coordination of and cooperation on legal activities of international and regional organizations active in the field of international trade law and at promoting the rule of law at the national and international levels in this field, and in this regard appeals to relevant international and regional organizations to coordinate their activities with those of the Commission, to avoid duplication of efforts and to promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the modernization and harmonization of international trade law;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance, in particular for developing countries, of the work of the Commission concerned with technical cooperation and assistance in the field of international trade law reform and development, and in this connection:

(a) Welcomes the initiatives of the Commission towards expanding, through its secretariat, its technical cooperation and assistance programme, in that respect encourages the Secretary-General to seek partnerships with State and non-State actors to increase awareness about the work of the Commission and facilitate the effective implementation of legal standards resulting from its work, and notes in that regard the round table on technical assistance held during the fifty-first session of the Commission, which brought together governmental and intergovernmental organizations active in international development assistance to explore synergies and discuss ways to further cooperate with the secretariat of the Commission in implementing sound reforms of international trade law;

(b) Expresses its appreciation to the Commission for carrying out technical cooperation and assistance activities and for providing assistance with legislative drafting in the field of international trade law, and draws the attention of the Secretary-General to the limited resources that are made available in this field;

(c) Expresses its appreciation to the Governments whose contributions enabled the technical cooperation and assistance activities to take place, and appeals to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law trust fund for symposia and, where appropriate, for the financing of special projects and otherwise to assist the secretariat of the Commission in carrying out technical cooperation and assistance activities, in particular in developing countries;

(d) Reiterates its appeal to the United Nations Development Programme and other bodies responsible for development assistance, such as the World Bank and regional development banks, as well as to Governments in their bilateral aid programmes, to support the technical cooperation and assistance programme of the Commission and to cooperate with the Commission and coordinate their activities with those of the Commission in the light of the relevance and importance of the work and programmes of the Commission for the promotion of the rule of law at the

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<sup>32</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/73/17)*, chaps. IV–IX.

<sup>33</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. XVII, sects. A and B.

<sup>34</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. VIII, para. 159.

<sup>35</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 155.

national and international levels and for the implementation of the international development agenda, including the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>28</sup>

(e) Recalls its resolutions stressing the need to strengthen support to Member States, upon their request, in the domestic implementation of their respective international obligations through enhanced technical assistance and capacity-building, and welcomes the efforts of the Secretary-General to ensure greater coordination and coherence among United Nations entities and with donors and recipients;

11. *Recalls* the importance of adherence to the rules of procedure and methods of work of the Commission, including transparent and inclusive deliberations, taking into account the summary of conclusions as reproduced in annex III to the report on the work of its forty-third session,<sup>36</sup> requests the Secretariat to issue, prior to meetings of the Commission and of its working groups, a reminder of those rules of procedure and methods of work with a view to ensuring the high quality of the work of the Commission and encouraging the assessment of its instruments, recalls in this regard its previous resolutions related to this matter, and notes that the Commission, during its fifty-first session, welcomed a joint comprehensive proposal submitted by Member States on its methods of work, including to use information-only documents on matters not requiring in-depth discussions, to apply a flexible approach to the allocation of meeting days with the goal of finalizing instruments and subsequently making decisions on future work in consecutive sessions of the Commission, to conduct a more efficient discussion of the topic of the role of the Commission in the promotion of the rule of law and to explore the possibility of reducing the duration of Commission sessions to two weeks, when possible and subject to the need for finalization of ongoing projects by the Commission, all aimed at enhancing the efficiency of the Commission's work as well as reducing the burden on delegations, and to streamline and focus the Commission's agenda and preparation for the session, and notes in that respect that the Secretariat was requested to plan and prepare for the fifty-second session of the Commission, in 2019, on the basis of that proposal;<sup>37</sup>

12. *Welcomes* the activities of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific, in the Republic of Korea, towards providing capacity-building and technical assistance services to States in the Asia-Pacific region, including to international and regional organizations, expresses its appreciation to the Republic of Korea and China, whose contributions enabled continuing operation of the Regional Centre, notes that the continuation of the regional presence relies entirely on extrabudgetary resources, including but not limited to voluntary contributions from States, welcomes expressions of interest from other States in hosting regional centres of the Commission, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly informed of developments regarding the establishment of regional centres, in particular their funding and budgetary situation;

13. *Notes* that, further to the offer of the Government of Cameroon in 2017, approved by the Commission, to establish, subject to the relevant rules and regulations of the United Nations and the internal approval process of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat, a regional centre for Africa in Cameroon,<sup>38</sup> the Government of Cameroon is continuing to examine the financial implications and the feasibility of establishing that regional centre, and encourages the secretariat of the Commission to continue its consultations and consider carefully the level of human resources that it would need for the efficient management of any new regional centre and for ensuring adequate supervision by, and coordination with, Vienna-based secretariat staff,<sup>39</sup> and requests the Commission, in its annual report, to keep the General Assembly informed of developments regarding the project, in particular its funding and budgetary situation;

14. *Appeals* to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund established to provide travel assistance to developing countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General, in order to enable renewal of the provision of that assistance and to increase expert representation from developing countries at sessions of the Commission and its working groups, necessary to build local expertise and capacities in those countries to put in place a regulatory and enabling environment for business, trade and investment;

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<sup>36</sup> Ibid., *Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/65/17)*.

<sup>37</sup> Ibid., *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/73/17)*, chap. XVIII, sect. A.

<sup>38</sup> Ibid., *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/72/17)*, para. 293.

<sup>39</sup> Ibid., *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/73/17)*, para. 200.

15. *Decides*, in order to ensure full participation of all Member States in the sessions of the Commission and its working groups, to continue, in the competent Main Committee during the seventy-third session of the General Assembly, its consideration of granting travel assistance to the least developed countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General, and notes the contributions from the European Union and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation to the trust fund, which would facilitate the participation of representatives of developing States in the deliberations of Working Group III;

16. *Endorses* the conviction of the Commission that the implementation and effective use of modern private law standards in international trade are essential for advancing good governance, sustained economic development and the eradication of poverty and hunger and that the promotion of the rule of law in commercial relations should be an integral part of the broader agenda of the United Nations to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, supported by the Rule of Law Unit in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General;

17. *Notes* the role of the Commission in promoting the rule of law, respective activity in the Commission at its fifty-first session<sup>40</sup> and the comments transmitted by the Commission, pursuant to paragraph 25 of General Assembly resolution 72/119 of 7 December 2017, highlighting the role in the promotion of the rule of law of the texts adopted or approved by the Commission and of its ongoing work, in particular through wide dissemination of international commercial law, including across the United Nations system;<sup>41</sup>

18. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in paragraph 8 of the declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels, adopted by consensus as resolution 67/1 of 24 September 2012, Member States recognized the importance of fair, stable and predictable legal frameworks for generating inclusive, sustainable and equitable development, economic growth and employment, generating investment and facilitating entrepreneurship and, in this regard, commended the work of the Commission in modernizing and harmonizing international trade law and that, in paragraph 7 of the declaration, Member States expressed their conviction that the rule of law and development were strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing;

19. *Also notes with satisfaction* that, in paragraph 89 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, adopted by the General Assembly by consensus as resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015, States endorsed the efforts and initiatives of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, aimed at increasing coordination of and cooperation on legal activities of international and regional organizations active in the field of international trade law and at promoting the rule of law at the national and international levels in this field;

20. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, in conformity with resolutions of the General Assembly on documentation-related matters,<sup>42</sup> which, in particular, emphasize that any invitation to limit, where appropriate, the length of documents should not adversely affect either the quality of the presentation or the substance of the documents, to bear in mind the particular characteristics of the mandate and functions of the Commission in the progressive development and codification of international trade law when implementing page limits with respect to the documentation of the Commission;<sup>43</sup>

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the publication of Commission standards and the provision of summary records of the meetings of the Commission, including committees of the whole established by the Commission for the duration of its annual session, relating to the formulation of normative texts, and takes note of the decision of the Commission to continue the trial use of digital recordings, in parallel with summary records where applicable, with a view to assessing the experience of using digital recordings and, on the basis of that assessment, taking a decision at a future session regarding the possible replacement of summary records by digital recordings;<sup>44</sup>

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<sup>40</sup> Ibid., paras. 230–231.

<sup>41</sup> Ibid., chap. XV.

<sup>42</sup> Resolutions 52/214, sect. B, 57/283 B, sect. III, and 58/250, sect. III.

<sup>43</sup> See resolutions 59/39, para. 9, and 65/21, para. 18; see also *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/59/17)*, paras. 124–128.

<sup>44</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/69/17)*, para. 276.



22. *Recalls* paragraph 48 of its resolution [66/246](#) of 24 December 2011 regarding the rotation scheme of meetings between Vienna and New York;

23. *Stresses* the importance of promoting the use of texts emanating from the work of the Commission for the global unification and harmonization of international trade law, and to this end urges States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to conventions, enacting model laws and encouraging the use of other relevant texts;

24. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Secretariat on the system for the collection and dissemination of case law on Commission texts in the six official languages of the United Nations (the CLOUT system), notes the resource-intensive nature of the system, acknowledges the need for further resources to sustain and expand it, and in this regard welcomes efforts by the Secretariat towards building partnerships with interested institutions, and appeals to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to assist the secretariat of the Commission in raising awareness as to the availability and usefulness of the CLOUT system in professional, academic and judiciary circles and in securing the funding required for the coordination and expansion of the system and the establishment, within the secretariat of the Commission, of a pillar focused on the promotion of ways and means of interpreting Commission texts in a uniform manner;

25. *Welcomes* the continuing work of the Secretariat on digests of case law related to Commission texts, including their wide dissemination, as well as the continuing increase in the number of abstracts available through the CLOUT system, in view of the role of the digests and the CLOUT system as important tools for the promotion of the uniform interpretation of international trade law, in particular by building local capacity of judges, arbitrators and other legal practitioners to interpret those standards in the light of their international character and the need to promote uniformity in their application and the observance of good faith in international trade, and notes the satisfaction of the Commission with the performance of the New York Convention website<sup>45</sup> and the successful coordination between that website and the CLOUT system;

26. *Recalls* its resolutions affirming the importance of high-quality, user-friendly and cost-effective United Nations websites and the need for their multilingual development, maintenance and enrichment,<sup>46</sup> commends the fact that the website of the Commission is published simultaneously in the six official languages of the United Nations, and welcomes the continuous efforts of the Commission to maintain and improve its website, including by developing its latest updated version, and to enhance the visibility of its work by utilizing social media features in accordance with the applicable guidelines.<sup>47</sup>

### RESOLUTION 73/198

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/496](#), para. 14)<sup>48</sup>

#### **73/198. United Nations Convention on International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution [2205 \(XXI\)](#) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

*Recalling also* its resolution [57/18](#) of 19 November 2002, in which it noted the adoption by the Commission of the Model Law on International Commercial Conciliation<sup>49</sup> and expressed the conviction that the Model Law,

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<sup>45</sup> [www.newyorkconvention1958.org](http://www.newyorkconvention1958.org).

<sup>46</sup> Resolutions [52/214](#), sect. C, para. 3; [55/222](#), sect. III, para. 12; [56/64](#) B, sect. X; [57/130](#) B, sect. X; [58/101](#) B, sect. V, paras. 61–76; [59/126](#) B, sect. V, paras. 76–95; [60/109](#) B, sect. IV, paras. 66–80; and [61/121](#) B, sect. IV, paras. 65–77.

<sup>47</sup> See resolution [63/120](#), para. 20.

<sup>48</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Austria on behalf of the Bureau.

<sup>49</sup> Resolution [57/18](#), annex.



together with the Conciliation Rules of the Commission<sup>50</sup> recommended in its resolution [35/52](#) of 4 December 1980, contributes significantly to the establishment of a harmonized legal framework for the fair and efficient settlement of disputes arising in international commercial relations,

*Recognizing* the value of mediation as a method of amicably settling disputes arising in the context of international commercial relations,

*Convinced* that the adoption of a convention on international settlement agreements resulting from mediation that is acceptable to States with different legal, social and economic systems would complement the existing legal framework on international mediation and contribute to the development of harmonious international economic relations,

*Noting* that the decision of the Commission to concurrently prepare a convention on international settlement agreements resulting from mediation and an amendment to the Model Law on International Commercial Conciliation was intended to accommodate the different levels of experience with mediation in different jurisdictions and to provide States with consistent standards on the cross-border enforcement of international settlement agreements resulting from mediation, without creating any expectation that interested States may adopt either instrument,<sup>51</sup>

*Noting with satisfaction* that the preparation of the draft convention was the subject of due deliberation and that the draft convention benefited from consultations with Governments as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

*Taking note* of the decision of the Commission at its fifty-first session to submit the draft convention to the General Assembly for its consideration,<sup>52</sup>

*Taking note with satisfaction* of the draft convention approved by the Commission,<sup>53</sup>

*Expressing its appreciation* to the Government of Singapore for its offer to host a signing ceremony for the Convention in Singapore,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law for preparing the draft convention on international settlement agreements resulting from mediation;
2. *Adopts* the United Nations Convention on International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation, contained in the annex to the present resolution;
3. *Authorizes* a ceremony for the opening for signature of the Convention to be held in Singapore on 7 August 2019, and recommends that the Convention be known as the “Singapore Convention on Mediation”;
4. *Calls upon* those Governments and regional economic integration organizations that wish to strengthen the legal framework on international dispute settlement to consider becoming a party to the Convention.

## **Annex**

### **United Nations Convention on International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation**

#### **Preamble**

*The Parties to this Convention,*

*Recognizing* the value for international trade of mediation as a method for settling commercial disputes in which the parties in dispute request a third person or persons to assist them in their attempt to settle the dispute amicably,

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<sup>50</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/35/17)*, para. 106; see also *Yearbook of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law*, vol. XI: 1980, part three, annex II.

<sup>51</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/72/17)*, paras. 238–239; see also [A/CN.9/901](#), para. 52.

<sup>52</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/73/17)*, para. 49.

<sup>53</sup> *Ibid.*, annex I.

*Noting* that mediation is increasingly used in international and domestic commercial practice as an alternative to litigation,

*Considering* that the use of mediation results in significant benefits, such as reducing the instances where a dispute leads to the termination of a commercial relationship, facilitating the administration of international transactions by commercial parties and producing savings in the administration of justice by States,

*Convinced* that the establishment of a framework for international settlement agreements resulting from mediation that is acceptable to States with different legal, social and economic systems would contribute to the development of harmonious international economic relations,

*Have agreed* as follows:

## **Article 1**

### **Scope of application**

1. This Convention applies to an agreement resulting from mediation and concluded in writing by parties to resolve a commercial dispute (“settlement agreement”) which, at the time of its conclusion, is international in that:

- (a) At least two parties to the settlement agreement have their places of business in different States; or
- (b) The State in which the parties to the settlement agreement have their places of business is different from either:
  - (i) The State in which a substantial part of the obligations under the settlement agreement is performed; or
  - (ii) The State with which the subject matter of the settlement agreement is most closely connected.

2. This Convention does not apply to settlement agreements:

- (a) Concluded to resolve a dispute arising from transactions engaged in by one of the parties (a consumer) for personal, family or household purposes;
- (b) Relating to family, inheritance or employment law.

3. This Convention does not apply to:

- (a) Settlement agreements:
  - (i) That have been approved by a court or concluded in the course of proceedings before a court; and
  - (ii) That are enforceable as a judgment in the State of that court;
- (b) Settlement agreements that have been recorded and are enforceable as an arbitral award.

## **Article 2**

### **Definitions**

1. For the purposes of article 1, paragraph 1:

(a) If a party has more than one place of business, the relevant place of business is that which has the closest relationship to the dispute resolved by the settlement agreement, having regard to the circumstances known to, or contemplated by, the parties at the time of the conclusion of the settlement agreement;

(b) If a party does not have a place of business, reference is to be made to the party’s habitual residence.

2. A settlement agreement is “in writing” if its content is recorded in any form. The requirement that a settlement agreement be in writing is met by an electronic communication if the information contained therein is accessible so as to be useable for subsequent reference.

3. “Mediation” means a process, irrespective of the expression used or the basis upon which the process is carried out, whereby parties attempt to reach an amicable settlement of their dispute with the assistance of a third person or persons (“the mediator”) lacking the authority to impose a solution upon the parties to the dispute.

### **Article 3**

#### **General principles**

1. Each Party to the Convention shall enforce a settlement agreement in accordance with its rules of procedure and under the conditions laid down in this Convention.
2. If a dispute arises concerning a matter that a party claims was already resolved by a settlement agreement, a Party to the Convention shall allow the party to invoke the settlement agreement in accordance with its rules of procedure and under the conditions laid down in this Convention, in order to prove that the matter has already been resolved.

### **Article 4**

#### **Requirements for reliance on settlement agreements**

1. A party relying on a settlement agreement under this Convention shall supply to the competent authority of the Party to the Convention where relief is sought:
  - (a) The settlement agreement signed by the parties;
  - (b) Evidence that the settlement agreement resulted from mediation, such as:
    - (i) The mediator's signature on the settlement agreement;
    - (ii) A document signed by the mediator indicating that the mediation was carried out;
    - (iii) An attestation by the institution that administered the mediation; or
    - (iv) In the absence of (i), (ii) or (iii), any other evidence acceptable to the competent authority.
2. The requirement that a settlement agreement shall be signed by the parties or, where applicable, the mediator is met in relation to an electronic communication if:
  - (a) A method is used to identify the parties or the mediator and to indicate the parties' or mediator's intention in respect of the information contained in the electronic communication; and
  - (b) The method used is either:
    - (i) As reliable as appropriate for the purpose for which the electronic communication was generated or communicated, in the light of all the circumstances, including any relevant agreement; or
    - (ii) Proven in fact to have fulfilled the functions described in subparagraph (a) above, by itself or together with further evidence.
3. If the settlement agreement is not in an official language of the Party to the Convention where relief is sought, the competent authority may request a translation thereof into such language.
4. The competent authority may require any necessary document in order to verify that the requirements of the Convention have been complied with.
5. When considering the request for relief, the competent authority shall act expeditiously.

### **Article 5**

#### **Grounds for refusing to grant relief**

1. The competent authority of the Party to the Convention where relief is sought under article 4 may refuse to grant relief at the request of the party against whom the relief is sought only if that party furnishes to the competent authority proof that:
  - (a) A party to the settlement agreement was under some incapacity;
  - (b) The settlement agreement sought to be relied upon:
    - (i) Is null and void, inoperative or incapable of being performed under the law to which the parties have validly subjected it or, failing any indication thereon, under the law deemed applicable by the competent authority of the Party to the Convention where relief is sought under article 4;

- (ii) Is not binding, or is not final, according to its terms; or
  - (iii) Has been subsequently modified;
  - (c) The obligations in the settlement agreement:
    - (i) Have been performed; or
    - (ii) Are not clear or comprehensible;
  - (d) Granting relief would be contrary to the terms of the settlement agreement;
  - (e) There was a serious breach by the mediator of standards applicable to the mediator or the mediation without which breach that party would not have entered into the settlement agreement; or
  - (f) There was a failure by the mediator to disclose to the parties circumstances that raise justifiable doubts as to the mediator's impartiality or independence and such failure to disclose had a material impact or undue influence on a party without which failure that party would not have entered into the settlement agreement.
2. The competent authority of the Party to the Convention where relief is sought under article 4 may also refuse to grant relief if it finds that:
- (a) Granting relief would be contrary to the public policy of that Party; or
  - (b) The subject matter of the dispute is not capable of settlement by mediation under the law of that Party.

#### **Article 6**

##### **Parallel applications or claims**

If an application or a claim relating to a settlement agreement has been made to a court, an arbitral tribunal or any other competent authority which may affect the relief being sought under article 4, the competent authority of the Party to the Convention where such relief is sought may, if it considers it proper, adjourn the decision and may also, on the request of a party, order the other party to give suitable security.

#### **Article 7**

##### **Other laws or treaties**

This Convention shall not deprive any interested party of any right it may have to avail itself of a settlement agreement in the manner and to the extent allowed by the law or the treaties of the Party to the Convention where such settlement agreement is sought to be relied upon.

#### **Article 8**

##### **Reservations**

1. A Party to the Convention may declare that:
  - (a) It shall not apply this Convention to settlement agreements to which it is a party, or to which any governmental agencies or any person acting on behalf of a governmental agency is a party, to the extent specified in the declaration;
  - (b) It shall apply this Convention only to the extent that the parties to the settlement agreement have agreed to the application of the Convention.
2. No reservations are permitted except those expressly authorized in this article.
3. Reservations may be made by a Party to the Convention at any time. Reservations made at the time of signature shall be subject to confirmation upon ratification, acceptance or approval. Such reservations shall take effect simultaneously with the entry into force of this Convention in respect of the Party to the Convention concerned. Reservations made at the time of ratification, acceptance or approval of this Convention or accession thereto, or at the time of making a declaration under article 13 shall take effect simultaneously with the entry into force of this Convention in respect of the Party to the Convention concerned. Reservations deposited after the entry into force of the Convention for that Party to the Convention shall take effect six months after the date of the deposit.
4. Reservations and their confirmations shall be deposited with the depositary.

5. Any Party to the Convention that makes a reservation under this Convention may withdraw it at any time. Such withdrawals are to be deposited with the depositary, and shall take effect six months after deposit.

#### **Article 9**

##### **Effect on settlement agreements**

The Convention and any reservation or withdrawal thereof shall apply only to settlement agreements concluded after the date when the Convention, reservation or withdrawal thereof enters into force for the Party to the Convention concerned.

#### **Article 10**

##### **Depositary**

The Secretary-General of the United Nations is hereby designated as the depositary of this Convention.

#### **Article 11**

##### **Signature, ratification, acceptance, approval, accession**

1. This Convention is open for signature by all States in Singapore, on 7 August 2019, and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York.
2. This Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by the signatories.
3. This Convention is open for accession by all States that are not signatories as from the date it is open for signature.
4. Instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession are to be deposited with the depositary.

#### **Article 12**

##### **Participation by regional economic integration organizations**

1. A regional economic integration organization that is constituted by sovereign States and has competence over certain matters governed by this Convention may similarly sign, ratify, accept, approve or accede to this Convention. The regional economic integration organization shall in that case have the rights and obligations of a Party to the Convention, to the extent that that organization has competence over matters governed by this Convention. Where the number of Parties to the Convention is relevant in this Convention, the regional economic integration organization shall not count as a Party to the Convention in addition to its member States that are Parties to the Convention.
2. The regional economic integration organization shall, at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, make a declaration to the depositary specifying the matters governed by this Convention in respect of which competence has been transferred to that organization by its member States. The regional economic integration organization shall promptly notify the depositary of any changes to the distribution of competence, including new transfers of competence, specified in the declaration under this paragraph.
3. Any reference to a “Party to the Convention”, “Parties to the Convention”, a “State” or “States” in this Convention applies equally to a regional economic integration organization where the context so requires.
4. This Convention shall not prevail over conflicting rules of a regional economic integration organization, whether such rules were adopted or entered into force before or after this Convention: (a) if, under article 4, relief is sought in a State that is member of such an organization and all the States relevant under article 1, paragraph 1, are members of such an organization; or (b) as concerns the recognition or enforcement of judgments between member States of such an organization.

#### **Article 13**

##### **Non-unified legal systems**

1. If a Party to the Convention has two or more territorial units in which different systems of law are applicable in relation to the matters dealt with in this Convention, it may, at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, declare that this Convention is to extend to all its territorial units or only to one or more of them, and may amend its declaration by submitting another declaration at any time.

2. These declarations are to be notified to the depositary and are to state expressly the territorial units to which the Convention extends.
3. If a Party to the Convention has two or more territorial units in which different systems of law are applicable in relation to the matters dealt with in this Convention:
  - (a) Any reference to the law or rule of procedure of a State shall be construed as referring, where appropriate, to the law or rule of procedure in force in the relevant territorial unit;
  - (b) Any reference to the place of business in a State shall be construed as referring, where appropriate, to the place of business in the relevant territorial unit;
  - (c) Any reference to the competent authority of the State shall be construed as referring, where appropriate, to the competent authority in the relevant territorial unit.
4. If a Party to the Convention makes no declaration under paragraph 1 of this article, the Convention is to extend to all territorial units of that State.

#### **Article 14**

##### **Entry into force**

1. This Convention shall enter into force six months after deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.
2. When a State ratifies, accepts, approves or accedes to this Convention after the deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, this Convention shall enter into force in respect of that State six months after the date of the deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. The Convention shall enter into force for a territorial unit to which this Convention has been extended in accordance with article 13 six months after the notification of the declaration referred to in that article.

#### **Article 15**

##### **Amendment**

1. Any Party to the Convention may propose an amendment to the present Convention by submitting it to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Secretary-General shall thereupon communicate the proposed amendment to the Parties to the Convention with a request that they indicate whether they favour a conference of Parties to the Convention for the purpose of considering and voting upon the proposal. In the event that within four months from the date of such communication at least one third of the Parties to the Convention favour such a conference, the Secretary-General shall convene the conference under the auspices of the United Nations.
2. The conference of Parties to the Convention shall make every effort to achieve consensus on each amendment. If all efforts at consensus are exhausted and no consensus is reached, the amendment shall, as a last resort, require for its adoption a two-thirds majority vote of the Parties to the Convention present and voting at the conference.
3. An adopted amendment shall be submitted by the depositary to all the Parties to the Convention for ratification, acceptance or approval.
4. An adopted amendment shall enter into force six months after the date of deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval. When an amendment enters into force, it shall be binding on those Parties to the Convention that have expressed consent to be bound by it.
5. When a Party to the Convention ratifies, accepts or approves an amendment following the deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval, the amendment shall enter into force in respect of that Party to the Convention six months after the date of the deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval.

#### **Article 16**

##### **Denunciations**

1. A Party to the Convention may denounce this Convention by a formal notification in writing addressed to the depositary. The denunciation may be limited to certain territorial units of a non-unified legal system to which this Convention applies.



2. The denunciation shall take effect 12 months after the notification is received by the depositary. Where a longer period for the denunciation to take effect is specified in the notification, the denunciation shall take effect upon the expiration of such longer period after the notification is received by the depositary. The Convention shall continue to apply to settlement agreements concluded before the denunciation takes effect.

DONE in a single original, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic.

### RESOLUTION 73/199

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/496, para. 14)<sup>54</sup>

#### **73/199. Model Law on International Commercial Mediation and International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

*Recalling also* its resolution 57/18 of 19 November 2002, in which it noted the adoption by the Commission of the Model Law on International Commercial Conciliation<sup>55</sup> and expressed the conviction that the Model Law, together with the Conciliation Rules of the Commission<sup>56</sup> recommended in its resolution 35/52 of 4 December 1980, contributes significantly to the establishment of a harmonized legal framework for the fair and efficient settlement of disputes arising in international commercial relations,

*Recognizing* the value of mediation as a method of amicably settling disputes arising in the context of international commercial relations,

*Believing* that the amendments to the Model Law on International Commercial Conciliation will significantly assist States in enhancing their legislation governing the use of modern mediation techniques and in formulating such legislation where none currently exists,

*Noting* that the decision of the Commission to concurrently prepare a convention on international settlement agreements resulting from mediation and an amendment to the Model Law on International Commercial Conciliation was intended to accommodate the different levels of experience with mediation in different jurisdictions and to provide States with consistent standards on the cross-border enforcement of international settlement agreements resulting from mediation, without creating any expectation that interested States may adopt either instrument,<sup>57</sup>

*Noting with satisfaction* that the preparation of the amendments to the Model Law was the subject of due deliberation and that they benefited from consultations with Governments as well as with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law for finalizing and adopting the Model Law on International Commercial Mediation and International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation (amending the Model Law on International Commercial Conciliation);<sup>58</sup>

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<sup>54</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Austria on behalf of the Bureau.

<sup>55</sup> Resolution 57/18, annex.

<sup>56</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/35/17)*, para. 106; see also *Yearbook of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law*, vol. XI: 1980, part three, annex II.

<sup>57</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/72/17)*, paras. 238–239; see also A/CN.9/901, para. 52.

<sup>58</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/73/17)*, annex II.

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the Model Law to Governments and other interested bodies;
3. *Recommends* that all States give favourable consideration to the Model Law when revising or adopting legislation relevant to mediation, bearing in mind the desirability of uniformity of the law of mediation procedures and the specific needs of international commercial mediation practice, and invites States that have used the Model Law to advise the Commission accordingly.

#### RESOLUTION 73/200

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/496, para. 14)<sup>59</sup>

#### **73/200. Model Law on Recognition and Enforcement of Insolvency-Related Judgments of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

*Recognizing* that effective insolvency regimes are increasingly seen as a means of encouraging economic development and investment, as well as fostering entrepreneurial activity and preserving employment,

*Convinced* that the law of recognition and enforcement of judgments is becoming more and more important in a world in which it is increasingly easy for enterprises and individuals to have assets in more than one State and to move assets across borders,

*Considering* that international instruments on the recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters exclude insolvency-related judgments from their scope,

*Concerned* that inadequate coordination and cooperation in cases of cross-border insolvency, which lead to uncertainties associated with recognition and enforcement of insolvency-related judgments, can operate as an obstacle to the fair, efficient and effective administration of cross-border insolvencies, reducing the possibility of rescuing financially troubled but viable businesses, making it more likely that debtors' assets would be concealed or dissipated and hindering reorganizations or liquidations that would be the most advantageous for all interested persons, including the debtors, the debtors' employees and the creditors,

*Convinced* that fair and internationally standardized legislation on cross-border insolvency that respects national procedural and judicial systems, as expressed by the provisions of the Model Law on Recognition and Enforcement of Insolvency-Related Judgments,<sup>60</sup> that is acceptable to States with different legal, social and economic systems would contribute to the development of international trade and investment,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law for finalizing and adopting the Model Law on Recognition and Enforcement of Insolvency-Related Judgments<sup>60</sup> and its guide to enactment;
2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the Model Law, together with its guide to enactment, to Governments and other interested bodies;
3. *Recommends* that all States give favourable consideration to the Model Law when revising or adopting legislation relevant to insolvency, bearing in mind the need for internationally harmonized legislation governing and facilitating instances of cross-border insolvency, and invites States that have used the Model Law to advise the Commission accordingly;

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<sup>59</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Austria on behalf of the Bureau.

<sup>60</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/73/17)*, annex III.

4. *Also recommends* that all States continue to consider implementation of the Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law.<sup>61</sup>

### RESOLUTION 73/201

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/557, para. 7)<sup>62</sup>

#### **73/201. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 2099 (XX) of 20 December 1965, in which the General Assembly established the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law to contribute towards a better knowledge of international law as a means of strengthening international peace and security and promoting friendly relations and cooperation among States,

*Reaffirming* that the Programme of Assistance is a core activity of the United Nations and that it has provided the foundation for the efforts of the United Nations to promote a better knowledge of international law for more than half a century,

*Recognizing* the major contribution of the Programme of Assistance to the teaching and dissemination of international law for the benefit of lawyers in all countries, legal systems and regions of the world for more than half a century and the importance of ensuring the successful continuation of the Programme for the benefit of present and future generations of lawyers,

*Emphasizing* the important contribution of the Programme of Assistance, in particular the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law and the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, to the furtherance of United Nations rule of law programmes and activities,

*Reaffirming* that the increasing demand for international law training and dissemination activities creates new challenges for the Programme of Assistance,

*Recognizing* the importance of the Programme of Assistance effectively reaching its beneficiaries, including with regard to languages, while bearing in mind limitations on available resources,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Assistance<sup>63</sup> and the views of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, which are contained in the report,

*Noting with satisfaction* that resources have been provided under the programme budget for the organization of the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law on an annual basis and the further development of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law,

*Welcoming* the organization, for the third time in the history of the Programme of Assistance, of all three of the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law, for Africa, for Asia-Pacific and for Latin America and the Caribbean, in the same calendar year,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea was awarded in 2018,

*Considering* that international law should occupy an appropriate place in the teaching of legal disciplines at all universities,

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<sup>61</sup> Resolution 52/158, annex.

<sup>62</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Ghana on behalf of the Bureau.

<sup>63</sup> A/73/415.

*Convinced* that States, international and regional organizations, universities and institutions should be encouraged to give further support to the Programme of Assistance and to increase their activities to promote the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, in particular those activities which are of special benefit to persons from developing countries,

*Reaffirming* that in the conduct of the Programme of Assistance it would be desirable to use as far as possible the resources and facilities made available by Member States, international and regional organizations, universities, institutions and others,

*Reaffirming also* the hope that, in appointing highly qualified lecturers for the seminars to be held within the framework of the fellowship programmes in international law, account would be taken of the need to secure the representation of major legal systems and balance among various geographical regions,

1. *Reiterates its approval* of the guidelines and recommendations contained in section III of the reports of the Secretary-General,<sup>64</sup> in particular those designed to strengthen and revitalize the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law in response to the increasing demand for international law training and dissemination activities;

2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to carry out the activities specified in his report<sup>63</sup> in 2019, including the following activities to be financed from provisions in the regular budget:

(a) The International Law Fellowship Programme, with a minimum of 20 fellowships;

(b) The United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, for Asia-Pacific and for Latin America and the Caribbean, with a minimum of 20 fellowships for each course;

(c) The United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, including its continuation and further development;

(d) The dissemination of legal publications and lectures of the Audiovisual Library to developing countries to the extent that there are sufficient resources;

3. *Also authorizes* the Secretary-General to further expand the activities referred to in paragraph 2 above, to be financed from voluntary contributions received pursuant to paragraphs 16, 25 and 26 below;

4. *Commends* the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat for the cost-saving measures undertaken with regard to the International Law Fellowship Programme and the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law to increase the number of fellowships for the training courses financed from provisions in the regular budget, taking into account the number of applications for these courses;

5. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to award additional fellowships for the training courses from available resources under the programme budget for the Programme of Assistance and from voluntary contributions received pursuant to paragraph 26 below;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider admitting, for participation in the training courses, self-funded candidates present in the host country or from countries willing to bear the entire cost of their participation;

7. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to award a minimum of one scholarship in 2019 under the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, subject to the availability of funds from voluntary contributions;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to include resources under the proposed programme budget for 2020 for the International Law Fellowship Programme, the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, for Asia-Pacific and for Latin America and the Caribbean and for the continuation and further development of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the activities conducted under the Programme of Assistance and, in particular, for the efforts to strengthen, expand and enhance the international law training and dissemination activities within the framework of the Programme in 2018;

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<sup>64</sup> [A/70/423](#), [A/71/432](#), [A/72/517](#), [A/72/517/Corr.1](#) and [A/73/415](#).

10. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to support the establishment of alumni networks of participants of the training programmes organized under the Programme of Assistance;
11. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the continuation and further development of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law as a major contribution to the teaching and dissemination of international law around the world, and notes with appreciation the efforts of the Codification Division to enhance the accessibility of the Audiovisual Library by making all lectures in the Lecture Series available as podcasts;
12. *Recognizes* the importance of the United Nations legal publications prepared by the Office of Legal Affairs, and once again requests the Secretary-General to issue the publications referred to in his previous report<sup>65</sup> in various formats, including hard copy publications, which are essential for developing countries;
13. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts undertaken by the Codification Division to bring up to date the United Nations legal publications, which greatly enhanced the timely issuance thereof and made possible the preparation of legal training materials, and encourages the Division to continue to explore ways of sustaining such efforts into the next biennium, subject to the availability of resources;
14. *Notes with satisfaction* the issuance of volume XXXI of the *Reports of International Arbitral Awards*;
15. *Expresses its appreciation* for the issuance of the English-language edition of the *International Law Handbook: Collection of Instruments* as a valuable resource for international law education on a broad range of core subjects of international law in its training courses and for academic institutions in developing countries to promote international law education in those countries;
16. *Also expresses its appreciation* for the issuance of the *Recueil de droit international: Collection d'instruments*, the French language equivalent of the *International Law Handbook*, and requests Member States to provide the voluntary contributions necessary to ensure the completion of such a handbook in the other official languages of the United Nations, as well as its dissemination in developing countries;
17. *Requests* the Codification Division to continue to maintain and expand its websites listed in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General as an invaluable tool for the dissemination of international law materials as well as for advanced legal research;
18. *Requests* that interns and research assistants be enlisted for the preparation of materials for the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law;
19. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Codification Division to revitalize and conduct the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law as an important training activity;
20. *Expresses its appreciation* to Ethiopia, Chile and Thailand for hosting the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, for Latin America and the Caribbean and for Asia-Pacific in 2018;
21. *Expresses its appreciation* to the African Union for the valuable contribution it continues to make to the United Nations Regional Course in International Law for Africa;
22. *Once again encourages* the Codification Division to cooperate with the African Institute of International Law, dedicated to offering higher learning and research in international law needed for the development of Africa, in the implementation of the relevant activities under the Programme of Assistance;
23. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Hague Academy of International Law for the valuable contribution it continues to make to the Programme of Assistance, which has enabled candidates under the International Law Fellowship Programme to attend and participate in the Fellowship Programme in conjunction with courses at the Academy;
24. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions of the Hague Academy to the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, and calls upon Member States and interested organizations to give favourable consideration to the appeal of the Academy for a continuation of support and a possible increase in their financial contributions, to enable the Academy to carry out its activities, particularly those relating to the summer and winter courses, regional courses and programmes of the Centre for Studies and Research in International Law and International Relations;

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<sup>65</sup> [A/70/423](#), para. 45.

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to publicize the Programme of Assistance and periodically to invite Member States, universities, philanthropic foundations and other interested national and international institutions and organizations, as well as individuals, to make voluntary contributions towards the financing of the Programme or otherwise to assist in its implementation and possible expansion;

26. *Reiterates its request* to Member States and interested organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions for the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law and for the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law organized by the Codification Division as an important complement to the International Law Fellowship Programme;

27. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have made voluntary contributions to support the Programme of Assistance;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the Programme of Assistance in 2019 and, following consultations with the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance, to submit recommendations regarding the Programme in subsequent years;

29. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law”.

### RESOLUTION 73/202

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/556, para. 12)<sup>66</sup>

#### 73/202. Subsequent agreements and subsequent practice in relation to the interpretation of treaties

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* chapter IV of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventieth session,<sup>67</sup> which contains the draft conclusions on subsequent agreements and subsequent practice in relation to the interpretation of treaties,

*Taking note* of the recommendation of the International Law Commission contained in paragraph 49 of its report,

*Emphasizing* the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 (a), of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Noting* that the subject of subsequent agreements and subsequent practice in relation to the interpretation of treaties is of major importance in international relations,

1. *Welcomes* the conclusion of the work of the International Law Commission on subsequent agreements and subsequent practice in relation to the interpretation of treaties, and its adoption of the draft conclusions and commentaries thereto;<sup>68</sup>

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for its continuing contribution to the codification and progressive development of international law;

3. *Takes note* of the statements in the Sixth Committee on the subject, including those made at the seventy-third session of the General Assembly,<sup>69</sup> after the International Law Commission had completed its consideration of this topic in accordance with its statute;

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<sup>66</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Belarus on behalf of the Bureau.

<sup>67</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/73/10)*.

<sup>68</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 52.

<sup>69</sup> See A/C.6/73/SR.20, A/C.6/73/SR.21, A/C.6/73/SR.22, A/C.6/73/SR.23, A/C.6/73/SR.24, A/C.6/73/SR.29 and A/C.6/73/SR.30; see also the statements in the Sixth Committee that are available on the United Nations PaperSmart portal.



4. *Also takes note* of the conclusions on subsequent agreements and subsequent practice in relation to the interpretation of treaties, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution, with the commentaries thereto, brings them to the attention of States and all who may be called upon to interpret treaties, and encourages their widest possible dissemination.

## **Annex**

### **Subsequent agreements and subsequent practice in relation to the interpretation of treaties**

#### **Part One**

##### **Introduction**

##### **Conclusion 1**

###### **Scope**

The present conclusions concern the role of subsequent agreements and subsequent practice in the interpretation of treaties.

#### **Part Two**

##### **Basic rules and definitions**

##### **Conclusion 2**

###### **General rule and means of treaty interpretation**

1. Articles 31 and 32 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties set forth, respectively, the general rule of interpretation and the recourse to supplementary means of interpretation. These rules also apply as customary international law.
2. A treaty shall be interpreted in good faith in accordance with the ordinary meaning to be given to its terms in their context and in the light of its object and purpose, as provided in article 31, paragraph 1.
3. Article 31, paragraph 3, provides, *inter alia*, that there shall be taken into account, together with the context, (a) any subsequent agreement between the parties regarding the interpretation of the treaty or the application of its provisions; and (b) any subsequent practice in the application of the treaty which establishes the agreement of the parties regarding its interpretation.
4. Recourse may be had to other subsequent practice in the application of the treaty as a supplementary means of interpretation under article 32.
5. The interpretation of a treaty consists of a single combined operation, which places appropriate emphasis on the various means of interpretation indicated, respectively, in articles 31 and 32.

##### **Conclusion 3**

###### **Subsequent agreements and subsequent practice as authentic means of interpretation**

Subsequent agreements and subsequent practice under article 31, paragraph 3 (a) and (b), being objective evidence of the understanding of the parties as to the meaning of the treaty, are authentic means of interpretation, in the application of the general rule of treaty interpretation reflected in article 31.

##### **Conclusion 4**

###### **Definition of subsequent agreement and subsequent practice**

1. A subsequent agreement as an authentic means of interpretation under article 31, paragraph 3 (a), is an agreement between the parties, reached after the conclusion of a treaty, regarding the interpretation of the treaty or the application of its provisions.
2. A subsequent practice as an authentic means of interpretation under article 31, paragraph 3 (b), consists of conduct in the application of a treaty, after its conclusion, which establishes the agreement of the parties regarding the interpretation of the treaty.

3. A subsequent practice as a supplementary means of interpretation under article 32 consists of conduct by one or more parties in the application of the treaty, after its conclusion.

#### **Conclusion 5**

##### **Conduct as subsequent practice**

1. Subsequent practice under articles 31 and 32 may consist of any conduct of a party in the application of a treaty, whether in the exercise of its executive, legislative, judicial or other functions.
2. Other conduct, including by non-State actors, does not constitute subsequent practice under articles 31 and 32. Such conduct may, however, be relevant when assessing the subsequent practice of parties to a treaty.

#### **Part Three**

##### **General aspects**

#### **Conclusion 6**

##### **Identification of subsequent agreements and subsequent practice**

1. The identification of subsequent agreements and subsequent practice under article 31, paragraph 3, requires, in particular, a determination whether the parties, by an agreement or a practice, have taken a position regarding the interpretation of the treaty. Such a position is not taken if the parties have merely agreed not to apply the treaty temporarily or agreed to establish a practical arrangement (*modus vivendi*).
2. Subsequent agreements and subsequent practice under article 31, paragraph 3, may take a variety of forms.
3. The identification of subsequent practice under article 32 requires, in particular, a determination whether conduct by one or more parties is in the application of the treaty.

#### **Conclusion 7**

##### **Possible effects of subsequent agreements and subsequent practice in interpretation**

1. Subsequent agreements and subsequent practice under article 31, paragraph 3, contribute, in their interaction with other means of interpretation, to the clarification of the meaning of a treaty. This may result in narrowing, widening, or otherwise determining the range of possible interpretations, including any scope for the exercise of discretion which the treaty accords to the parties.
2. Subsequent practice under article 32 may also contribute to the clarification of the meaning of a treaty.
3. It is presumed that the parties to a treaty, by an agreement or a practice in the application of the treaty, intend to interpret the treaty, not to amend or to modify it. The possibility of amending or modifying a treaty by subsequent practice of the parties has not been generally recognized. The present conclusion is without prejudice to the rules on the amendment or modification of treaties under the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties and under customary international law.

#### **Conclusion 8**

##### **Interpretation of treaty terms as capable of evolving over time**

Subsequent agreements and subsequent practice under articles 31 and 32 may assist in determining whether or not the presumed intention of the parties upon the conclusion of the treaty was to give a term used a meaning which is capable of evolving over time.

#### **Conclusion 9**

##### **Weight of subsequent agreements and subsequent practice as a means of interpretation**

1. The weight of a subsequent agreement or subsequent practice as a means of interpretation under article 31, paragraph 3, depends, *inter alia*, on its clarity and specificity.
2. In addition, the weight of subsequent practice under article 31, paragraph 3 (b), depends, *inter alia*, on whether and how it is repeated.

3. The weight of subsequent practice as a supplementary means of interpretation under article 32 may depend on the criteria referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2.

#### **Conclusion 10**

##### **Agreement of the parties regarding the interpretation of a treaty**

1. An agreement under article 31, paragraph 3 (a) and (b), requires a common understanding regarding the interpretation of a treaty which the parties are aware of and accept. Such an agreement may, but need not, be legally binding for it to be taken into account.
2. The number of parties that must actively engage in subsequent practice in order to establish an agreement under article 31, paragraph 3 (b), may vary. Silence on the part of one or more parties may constitute acceptance of the subsequent practice when the circumstances call for some reaction.

#### **Part Four**

##### **Specific aspects**

#### **Conclusion 11**

##### **Decisions adopted within the framework of a Conference of States Parties**

1. A Conference of States Parties, under these conclusions, is a meeting of parties to a treaty for the purpose of reviewing or implementing the treaty, except where they act as members of an organ of an international organization.
2. The legal effect of a decision adopted within the framework of a Conference of States Parties depends primarily on the treaty and any applicable rules of procedure. Depending on the circumstances, such a decision may embody, explicitly or implicitly, a subsequent agreement under article 31, paragraph 3 (a), or give rise to subsequent practice under article 31, paragraph 3 (b), or to subsequent practice under article 32. Decisions adopted within the framework of a Conference of States Parties often provide a non-exclusive range of practical options for implementing the treaty.
3. A decision adopted within the framework of a Conference of States Parties embodies a subsequent agreement or subsequent practice under article 31, paragraph 3, in so far as it expresses agreement in substance between the parties regarding the interpretation of a treaty, regardless of the form and the procedure by which the decision was adopted, including adoption by consensus.

#### **Conclusion 12**

##### **Constituent instruments of international organizations**

1. Articles 31 and 32 apply to a treaty which is the constituent instrument of an international organization. Accordingly, subsequent agreements and subsequent practice under article 31, paragraph 3, are, and subsequent practice under article 32 may be, means of interpretation for such treaties.
2. Subsequent agreements and subsequent practice of the parties under article 31, paragraph 3, or subsequent practice under article 32, may arise from, or be expressed in, the practice of an international organization in the application of its constituent instrument.
3. Practice of an international organization in the application of its constituent instrument may contribute to the interpretation of that instrument when applying articles 31 and 32.
4. Paragraphs 1 to 3 apply to the interpretation of any treaty which is the constituent instrument of an international organization without prejudice to any relevant rules of the organization.

#### **Conclusion 13**

##### **Pronouncements of expert treaty bodies**

1. For the purposes of these conclusions, an expert treaty body is a body consisting of experts serving in their personal capacity, which is established under a treaty and is not an organ of an international organization.
2. The relevance of a pronouncement of an expert treaty body for the interpretation of a treaty is subject to the applicable rules of the treaty.

3. A pronouncement of an expert treaty body may give rise to, or refer to, a subsequent agreement or subsequent practice by parties under article 31, paragraph 3, or subsequent practice under article 32. Silence by a party shall not be presumed to constitute subsequent practice under article 31, paragraph 3 (b), accepting an interpretation of a treaty as expressed in a pronouncement of an expert treaty body.

4. This conclusion is without prejudice to the contribution that pronouncements of expert treaty bodies make to the interpretation of the treaties under their mandates.

### RESOLUTION 73/203

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/556, para. 12)<sup>70</sup>

#### 73/203. Identification of customary international law

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* chapter V of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventieth session,<sup>71</sup> which contains the draft conclusions on identification of customary international law,

*Taking note* of the recommendation of the International Law Commission contained in paragraph 63 of its report,

*Noting* the memorandum by the Secretariat on ways and means for making the evidence of customary international law more readily available, which surveys the present state of evidence of customary international law and makes suggestions for its improvement,<sup>72</sup>

*Noting also* the bibliography on the subject prepared by the Special Rapporteur,<sup>73</sup>

*Emphasizing* the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 (a), of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Noting* that the subject of identification of customary international law is of major importance in international relations,

1. *Welcomes* the conclusion of the work of the International Law Commission on identification of customary international law and its adoption of the draft conclusions and commentaries thereto;<sup>74</sup>

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for its continuing contribution to the codification and progressive development of international law;

3. *Takes note* of the statements in the Sixth Committee on the subject, including those made at the seventy-third session of the General Assembly,<sup>75</sup> after the International Law Commission had completed its consideration of this topic in accordance with its statute;

4. *Also takes note* of the conclusions on identification of customary international law, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution, with the commentaries thereto, brings them to the attention of States and all who may be called upon to identify rules of customary international law, and encourages their widest possible dissemination;

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<sup>70</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Georgia on behalf of the Bureau.

<sup>71</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/73/10).*

<sup>72</sup> A/CN.4/710.

<sup>73</sup> A/CN.4/717/Add.1.

<sup>74</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/73/10)*, para. 66.

<sup>75</sup> See A/C.6/73/SR.20, A/C.6/73/SR.21, A/C.6/73/SR.22, A/C.6/73/SR.23, A/C.6/73/SR.24 and A/C.6/73/SR.29; see also the statements in the Sixth Committee that are available on the United Nations PaperSmart portal.

5. *Acknowledges* the utility of published digests and surveys of practice relating to international law, including those that make legislative, executive and judicial practice widely available, and encourages States to make every effort to support existing publications and libraries specialized in international law.

## **Annex**

### **Identification of customary international law**

#### **Part One**

##### **Introduction**

##### **Conclusion 1**

###### **Scope**

The present conclusions concern the way in which the existence and content of rules of customary international law are to be determined.

#### **Part Two**

##### **Basic approach**

##### **Conclusion 2**

###### **Two constituent elements**

To determine the existence and content of a rule of customary international law, it is necessary to ascertain whether there is a general practice that is accepted as law (*opinio juris*).

##### **Conclusion 3**

###### **Assessment of evidence for the two constituent elements**

1. In assessing evidence for the purpose of ascertaining whether there is a general practice and whether that practice is accepted as law (*opinio juris*), regard must be had to the overall context, the nature of the rule, and the particular circumstances in which the evidence in question is to be found.
2. Each of the two constituent elements is to be separately ascertained. This requires an assessment of evidence for each element.

#### **Part Three**

##### **A general practice**

##### **Conclusion 4**

###### **Requirement of practice**

1. The requirement of a general practice, as a constituent element of customary international law, refers primarily to the practice of States that contributes to the formation, or expression, of rules of customary international law.
2. In certain cases, the practice of international organizations also contributes to the formation, or expression, of rules of customary international law.
3. Conduct of other actors is not practice that contributes to the formation, or expression, of rules of customary international law, but may be relevant when assessing the practice referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2.

##### **Conclusion 5**

###### **Conduct of the State as State practice**

State practice consists of conduct of the State, whether in the exercise of its executive, legislative, judicial or other functions.

##### **Conclusion 6**

###### **Forms of practice**

1. Practice may take a wide range of forms. It includes both physical and verbal acts. It may, under certain circumstances, include inaction.

2. Forms of State practice include, but are not limited to: diplomatic acts and correspondence; conduct in connection with resolutions adopted by an international organization or at an intergovernmental conference; conduct in connection with treaties; executive conduct, including operational conduct “on the ground”; legislative and administrative acts; and decisions of national courts.

3. There is no predetermined hierarchy among the various forms of practice.

#### **Conclusion 7**

##### **Assessing a State’s practice**

1. Account is to be taken of all available practice of a particular State, which is to be assessed as a whole.
2. Where the practice of a particular State varies, the weight to be given to that practice may, depending on the circumstances, be reduced.

#### **Conclusion 8**

##### **The practice must be general**

1. The relevant practice must be general, meaning that it must be sufficiently widespread and representative, as well as consistent.
2. Provided that the practice is general, no particular duration is required.

#### **Conclusion 9**

##### **Requirement of acceptance as law (*opinio juris*)**

1. The requirement, as a constituent element of customary international law, that the general practice be accepted as law (*opinio juris*) means that the practice in question must be undertaken with a sense of legal right or obligation.
2. A general practice that is accepted as law (*opinio juris*) is to be distinguished from mere usage or habit.

#### **Conclusion 10**

##### **Forms of evidence of acceptance as law (*opinio juris*)**

1. Evidence of acceptance as law (*opinio juris*) may take a wide range of forms.
2. Forms of evidence of acceptance as law (*opinio juris*) include, but are not limited to: public statements made on behalf of States; official publications; government legal opinions; diplomatic correspondence; decisions of national courts; treaty provisions; and conduct in connection with resolutions adopted by an international organization or at an intergovernmental conference.
3. Failure to react over time to a practice may serve as evidence of acceptance as law (*opinio juris*), provided that States were in a position to react and the circumstances called for some reaction.

#### **Part Five**

##### **Significance of certain materials for the identification of customary international law**

#### **Conclusion 11**

##### **Treaties**

1. A rule set forth in a treaty may reflect a rule of customary international law if it is established that the treaty rule:
  - (a) codified a rule of customary international law existing at the time when the treaty was concluded;
  - (b) has led to the crystallization of a rule of customary international law that had started to emerge prior to the conclusion of the treaty; or
  - (c) has given rise to a general practice that is accepted as law (*opinio juris*), thus generating a new rule of customary international law.



2. The fact that a rule is set forth in a number of treaties may, but does not necessarily, indicate that the treaty rule reflects a rule of customary international law.

#### **Conclusion 12**

##### **Resolutions of international organizations and intergovernmental conferences**

1. A resolution adopted by an international organization or at an intergovernmental conference cannot, of itself, create a rule of customary international law.
2. A resolution adopted by an international organization or at an intergovernmental conference may provide evidence for determining the existence and content of a rule of customary international law, or contribute to its development.
3. A provision in a resolution adopted by an international organization or at an intergovernmental conference may reflect a rule of customary international law if it is established that the provision corresponds to a general practice that is accepted as law (*opinio juris*).

#### **Conclusion 13**

##### **Decisions of courts and tribunals**

1. Decisions of international courts and tribunals, in particular of the International Court of Justice, concerning the existence and content of rules of customary international law are a subsidiary means for the determination of such rules.
2. Regard may be had, as appropriate, to decisions of national courts concerning the existence and content of rules of customary international law, as a subsidiary means for the determination of such rules.

#### **Conclusion 14**

##### **Teachings**

Teachings of the most highly qualified publicists of the various nations may serve as a subsidiary means for the determination of rules of customary international law.

#### **Part Six**

##### **Persistent objector**

#### **Conclusion 15**

##### **Persistent objector**

1. Where a State has objected to a rule of customary international law while that rule was in the process of formation, the rule is not opposable to the State concerned for so long as it maintains its objection.
2. The objection must be clearly expressed, made known to other States, and maintained persistently.
3. The present conclusion is without prejudice to any question concerning peremptory norms of general international law (*jus cogens*).

#### **Part Seven**

##### **Particular customary international law**

#### **Conclusion 16**

##### **Particular customary international law**

1. A rule of particular customary international law, whether regional, local or other, is a rule of customary international law that applies only among a limited number of States.
2. To determine the existence and content of a rule of particular customary international law, it is necessary to ascertain whether there is a general practice among the States concerned that is accepted by them as law (*opinio juris*) among themselves.

**RESOLUTION 73/204**

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/555, para. 8)<sup>76</sup>

**73/204. Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its biennial resolutions on the status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts, including its resolution 71/144 of 13 December 2016,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>77</sup>

*Reaffirming* the continuing value of established humanitarian rules relating to armed conflicts and the need to respect and ensure respect for those rules in all circumstances within the scope of the relevant international instruments, pending the earliest possible termination of such conflicts,

*Stressing* the need to consolidate the existing body of international humanitarian law through its universal acceptance and the need for wide dissemination and full implementation of such law at the national level, and expressing concern about all violations of the Geneva Conventions of 1949<sup>78</sup> and the Additional Protocols,<sup>79</sup>

*Calling upon* Member States to disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law as widely as possible, and calling upon all parties to armed conflict to apply international humanitarian law,

*Noting with satisfaction* the increasing number of national commissions and other bodies involved in advising authorities at the national level on the implementation, dissemination and development of international humanitarian law,

*Noting with appreciation* the meetings of representatives of those bodies organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross, together with relevant partners such as national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, to facilitate the sharing of concrete experience and the exchange of views on their roles and on the challenges they face,

*Stressing* the possibility of making use of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission in relation to an armed conflict, pursuant to article 90 of Protocol I<sup>80</sup> to the Geneva Conventions,

*Stressing also* the possibility for the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission to facilitate, through its good offices, the restoration of an attitude of respect for the Geneva Conventions and Protocol I,

*Taking note* of the fact that the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission conducted its first operational mission in 2017,

*Taking note also* of the fact that, in paragraphs 8 and 9 of its resolution 1894 (2009) of 11 November 2009 on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, the Security Council noted the range of existing methods used, on a case-by-case basis, for gathering information on alleged violations of applicable international law relating to the protection of civilians, underlined the importance in that regard of receiving information that is timely, objective, accurate and reliable, and considered the possibility, to that end, of using the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission established by article 90 of Protocol I,

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<sup>76</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

<sup>77</sup> A/73/277.

<sup>78</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

<sup>79</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513, and vol. 2404, No. 43425.

<sup>80</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1125, No. 17512.

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*Noting with appreciation* the role of the International Committee of the Red Cross in facilitating and offering protection to the victims of armed conflicts,

*Noting with appreciation also* the continuing efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross to promote and disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols,

*Noting* the special responsibilities of national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, as auxiliaries to the public authorities of their respective States in the humanitarian field, to cooperate with and assist their Governments in the promotion, dissemination and implementation of international humanitarian law,

*Welcoming* the universal acceptance of the Geneva Conventions of 1949,

*Emphasizing* the fundamentally non-discriminatory character of international humanitarian law, including as reflected in the preamble to the 1977 Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts, which, inter alia, reaffirms that the provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and of Additional Protocol I must be fully applied in all circumstances to all persons who are protected by those instruments, without any adverse distinction based on the origin of the armed conflict or on the causes espoused by or attributed to the parties to the conflict,

*Recalling* the imperative need to improve compliance with international humanitarian law, recognized by all States at the thirty-second International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, held in Geneva from 8 to 10 December 2015,

*Welcoming* the continued engagement of States in the intergovernmental process, and recalling its State-driven and consensus-based character, aimed at finding ways to enhance the implementation of international humanitarian law,

*Noting* the close cooperation between the International Committee of the Red Cross and States to further strengthen international humanitarian law protecting persons deprived of their liberty in relation to armed conflict,

*Welcoming* efforts by States to implement their obligations under international humanitarian law, as well as programmes and other measures of States and their armed forces that promote or ensure compliance with international humanitarian law,

*Noting* the work undertaken by States and by the International Committee of the Red Cross in relation to sexual and gender-based violence in armed conflict,

*Noting also* the work undertaken by States, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and other actors in the “Health Care in Danger” project to improve the protection of the provision of and access to health care,

*Noting with appreciation* Security Council resolution [2286 \(2016\)](#) of 3 May 2016, and in this regard calling upon all parties to armed conflict to respect and protect the wounded and sick, as well as health-care personnel, humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties and their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities, in armed conflict, in accordance with their obligations under international humanitarian law,

*Noting* the serious concern expressed by States regarding the humanitarian impact caused by cluster munitions, and noting the entry into force of the Convention on Cluster Munitions<sup>81</sup> on 1 August 2010,

*Noting also* the entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty<sup>82</sup> on 24 December 2014,

*Welcoming* the important contribution to the protection of victims of armed conflicts made by the significant debate generated by the publication in 2005 of the study by the International Committee of the Red Cross on customary international humanitarian law, as well as other recent initiatives by the Committee, welcoming also its efforts to update regularly its customary international humanitarian law database, and looking forward to further constructive discussion on the subject,

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<sup>81</sup> Ibid., vol. 2688, No. 47713.

<sup>82</sup> See resolution [67/234 B](#).

*Acknowledging* the fact that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court<sup>83</sup> covers the most serious crimes of international concern under international humanitarian law and that the Rome Statute, while recalling that it is the duty of every State to exercise its criminal jurisdiction over those responsible for such crimes, shows the determination of the international community to put an end to impunity for the perpetrators of such crimes and thus to contribute to their prevention,

*Noting* the amendments to article 8 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, relating to war crimes under the Rome Statute, adopted on 10 June 2010 at the Review Conference of the Rome Statute, held in Kampala from 31 May to 11 June 2010,

*Acknowledging* the usefulness of discussing in the General Assembly the status of instruments of international humanitarian law relevant to the protection of victims of armed conflicts,

1. *Welcomes* the universal acceptance of the Geneva Conventions of 1949,<sup>78</sup> and notes the trend towards a similarly wide acceptance of the two Additional Protocols of 1977;<sup>84</sup>

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Geneva Conventions that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Additional Protocols<sup>79</sup> at the earliest possible date;

3. *Calls upon* all States that are already parties to Protocol I,<sup>80</sup> or those States not parties, upon becoming parties to Protocol I, to make the declaration provided for under article 90 of that Protocol and to consider making use, where appropriate, of the services of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission in accordance with the provisions of article 90 of Protocol I;

4. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and the two Protocols thereto,<sup>85</sup> in the context of the upcoming twentieth anniversary of the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention of 1954 for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, and to other relevant treaties on international humanitarian law relating to the protection of victims of armed conflict;

5. *Calls upon* States to consider becoming parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict;<sup>86</sup>

6. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions to ensure their wide dissemination and full implementation;

7. *Affirms* the necessity of making the implementation of international humanitarian law more effective, and supports its further strengthening and development;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the 10 resolutions adopted at the thirty-second International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, held in Geneva from 8 to 10 December 2015, in particular resolutions 1 to 4, recalls their importance, as well as the recommendations for further actions therein, in strengthening international humanitarian law, and notes with appreciation in this regard resolution 2, entitled “Strengthening compliance with international humanitarian law”, in which the Conference, inter alia, recommended the continuation of an inclusive, State-driven intergovernmental process based on the principle of consensus and in line with the guiding principles of the consultation process to find agreement on features and functions of a potential forum of States and to find ways to enhance the implementation of international humanitarian law using the potential of the International Conference and international humanitarian law regional forums;

9. *Calls upon* Member States to actively participate in the thirty-third International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, to be held in Geneva in 2019;

10. *Welcomes* the activities of the Advisory Service on International Humanitarian Law of the International Committee of the Red Cross in supporting efforts made by Member States to take legislative and administrative action

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<sup>83</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

<sup>84</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

<sup>85</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 249, No. 3511, and vol. 2253, No. 3511.

<sup>86</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2173, No. 27531.

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to implement international humanitarian law and in promoting the exchange of information on those efforts between Governments, and reminds Member States of the availability of the manual on domestic implementation of international humanitarian law;

11. *Also welcomes* the increasing number of national commissions or committees for the implementation of international humanitarian law and their work in promoting the incorporation of treaties on international humanitarian law into national law and disseminating the rules of international humanitarian law, and encourages Member States that have not yet done so to consider establishing national commissions or committees with the support of national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies where relevant, to advise and assist Governments in implementing and disseminating knowledge of international humanitarian law;

12. *Commends* the International Committee of the Red Cross for organizing the universal meeting of national committees and similar bodies on international humanitarian law, held in Geneva from 30 November to 2 December 2016, and invites the International Committee of the Red Cross to continue to organize this meeting;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a comprehensive report on the status of the Additional Protocols relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts, as well as on measures taken to strengthen the existing body of international humanitarian law, inter alia, with respect to its dissemination and full implementation at the national level, based on information received from Member States and the International Committee of the Red Cross;

14. *Encourages* Member States and the International Committee of the Red Cross, in transmitting information to the Secretary-General, to focus on new developments and activities during the reporting period;

15. *Encourages* Member States to explore ways of facilitating the submission of information for future reports of the Secretary-General and, in this context, to consider the convenience of using a questionnaire as drafted by Member States, with the assistance of the International Committee of the Red Cross and, as appropriate, in consultation with the Secretariat, for submission to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session the item entitled “Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts”.

### RESOLUTION 73/205

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/554, para. 7)<sup>87</sup>

#### **73/205. Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>88</sup>

*Conscious* of the need to develop and strengthen friendly relations and cooperation among States,

*Convinced* that respect for the principles and rules of international law governing diplomatic and consular relations, including those derived from the principle of sovereign equality of States, is a basic prerequisite for the normal conduct of relations among States and for the fulfilment of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

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<sup>87</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Central African Republic, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Uruguay.

<sup>88</sup> A/73/189.

*Alarmed* by the new and recurring acts of violence against diplomatic and consular representatives, as well as against representatives to international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, which endanger or take innocent lives and seriously impede the normal work of such representatives and officials,

*Expressing sympathy* for the victims of such illegal acts,

*Recalling* that, to the extent provided by the relevant rules of international law, premises of diplomatic missions, consular premises and premises of permanent missions with diplomatic status to international intergovernmental organizations, as well as private residences of relevant members of diplomatic missions and representatives to international intergovernmental organizations, shall be inviolable and that, to the extent consistent with the relevant rules of international law, agents of the receiving State shall not enter them, except with the consent of the sending State,

*Noting* that diplomatic and consular missions may maintain archives and documents in various forms, that official correspondence may take a variety of forms and that diplomatic and consular missions may use a variety of means of communication,

*Recalling* that the archives and documents of diplomatic and consular missions shall be inviolable at any time and wherever they may be and that the official correspondence of diplomatic and consular missions shall be inviolable,

*Recalling also* that States shall permit and protect free communication of diplomatic and consular missions for all official purposes and that diplomatic and consular missions may employ all appropriate means in communicating with their Governments and other diplomatic and consular missions of their State, wherever situated,

*Concerned* at the failure to respect the inviolability of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives and, as appropriate, their family members, as well as of permanent missions and, as appropriate, relevant representatives to international intergovernmental organizations and their family members,

*Recalling* that, without prejudice to their privileges and immunities, it is the duty of all persons enjoying such privileges and immunities to respect the laws and regulations of the receiving State,

*Recalling also* that diplomatic and consular premises must not be used in any manner incompatible with the functions of diplomatic and consular missions,

*Emphasizing* the duty of States to take all appropriate measures, as required by international law, in a timely manner, for the protection of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives as well as missions and representatives to international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, including measures of a preventive nature, and to bring offenders to justice,

*Welcoming* measures already taken by States to this end in conformity with their international obligations,

*Convinced* that the role of the United Nations, which includes the reporting procedures established pursuant to General Assembly resolution [35/168](#) of 15 December 1980 and further elaborated in subsequent Assembly resolutions, is important in promoting efforts to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>88</sup>
2. *Strongly condemns* all acts of violence against diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, as well as against missions and representatives to international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, and emphasizes that such acts can never be justified;
3. *Urges* States to strictly observe, implement and enforce, including during a period of armed conflict, all the applicable principles and rules of international law governing diplomatic and consular relations, including those relating to inviolability, and, in particular, to ensure, in conformity with their international obligations, the protection, security and safety of the missions, representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above officially present in territories under their jurisdiction, including practical measures to prevent and prohibit in their territories illegal activities of persons, groups and organizations that encourage, instigate, organize or engage in the perpetration of acts against the security and safety of such missions, representatives and officials;
4. *Also urges* States to take all appropriate measures at the national and international levels to prevent any acts of violence against the missions, representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above, including during a period of armed conflict, and to ensure, with the participation of the United Nations where appropriate, that such acts are fully investigated with a view to bringing offenders to justice;



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5. *Recommends* that States cooperate closely through, inter alia, contacts between the diplomatic and consular missions and the receiving State with regard to practical measures designed to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, including measures of a preventive nature, and with regard to the timely exchange of information on the circumstances of all serious violations thereof;

6. *Urges* States to strictly comply with the applicable rules of international law governing the protection and inviolability of premises of diplomatic missions, consular premises and premises of permanent missions with diplomatic status to international intergovernmental organizations;

7. *Also urges* States to take all appropriate measures, in accordance with international law, at the national and international levels, to prevent any abuse of diplomatic or consular privileges and immunities, in particular serious abuses, including those involving acts of violence;

8. *Recommends* that States cooperate closely with the State in whose territory abuses of diplomatic and consular privileges and immunities may have occurred, including by exchanging information and providing assistance to its juridical authorities in order to bring offenders to justice;

9. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the instruments relevant to the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives;

10. *Calls upon* States, in cases where a dispute arises in connection with a violation of their international obligations concerning the protection of the missions, their archives and premises or the security of the representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above, to make use of the means available for peaceful settlement of disputes, including the good offices of the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General, when he deems it appropriate, to offer his good offices to the States directly concerned;

11. *Urges*:

(a) All States to report to the Secretary-General, in a concise and expeditious manner and in accordance with the guidelines prepared by the Secretary-General,<sup>89</sup> serious violations of the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives as well as missions and representatives with diplomatic status to international intergovernmental organizations;

(b) The State in which the violation took place – and, to the extent possible, the State where the alleged offender is present – to report to the Secretary-General, in a concise and expeditious manner and in accordance with the guidelines prepared by the Secretary-General, on measures taken to bring the offender to justice and to communicate, in accordance with its laws, the final outcome of the proceedings against the offender, and to report on measures adopted with a view to preventing a repetition of such violations;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To send, without delay, a circular note to all States reminding them of the request contained in paragraph 11 above;

(b) To circulate to all States, upon receipt, the reports received by him pursuant to paragraph 11 above, unless the reporting State requests otherwise;

(c) To draw the attention, when appropriate, of the States directly concerned to the reporting procedures provided for in paragraph 11 above, when a serious violation has been reported pursuant to paragraph 11 (a) above;

(d) To address reminders to States where such violations have occurred if reports pursuant to paragraph 11 (a) above or follow-up reports pursuant to paragraph 11 (b) above have not been made within a reasonable period of time;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to invite States, in the circular note referred to in paragraph 12 (a) above, to inform him of their views with respect to any measures needed or already taken to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives as well as missions and representatives with diplomatic status to international intergovernmental organizations;

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<sup>89</sup> [A/42/485](#), annex.

14. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report containing:

(a) Information on the state of ratification of and accessions to the instruments referred to in paragraph 9 above;

(b) A summary of the reports received and views expressed pursuant to paragraphs 11 and 13 above;

15. *Invites* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly any views he may wish to express on the matters referred to in paragraph 14 above;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session the item entitled “Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives”.

### RESOLUTION 73/206

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/486, para. 9)<sup>90</sup>

#### **73/206. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, by which it established the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, and its relevant resolutions adopted at subsequent sessions,

*Recalling also* its resolution 47/233 of 17 August 1993 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,

*Recalling further* its resolution 47/62 of 11 December 1992 on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council,

*Taking note* of the report of the Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters related to the Security Council,<sup>91</sup>

*Recalling* the elements relevant to the work of the Special Committee contained in its resolution 47/120 B of 20 September 1993,

*Recalling also* its resolution 51/241 of 31 July 1997 on the strengthening of the United Nations system and its resolution 51/242 of 15 September 1997, entitled “Supplement to an Agenda for Peace”, by which it adopted the texts on coordination and the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations, which are annexed to that resolution,

*Concerned* about the special economic problems confronting certain States arising from the carrying-out of preventive or enforcement measures taken by the Security Council against other States, and taking into account the obligation of Members of the United Nations under Article 49 of the Charter to join in affording mutual assistance in carrying out the measures decided upon by the Council,

*Recalling* the right of third States confronted with special economic problems of that nature to consult the Security Council with regard to a solution of those problems, in accordance with Article 50 of the Charter,

*Recalling also* that the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, and reaffirming its authority and independence,

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<sup>90</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Lesotho on behalf of the Bureau.

<sup>91</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 47 (A/63/47)*.

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*Mindful* of the adoption of the revised working papers on the working methods of the Special Committee,<sup>92</sup>

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “*Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs and Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*”,<sup>93</sup>

*Recalling* paragraphs 106 to 110, 176 and 177 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome,<sup>94</sup>

*Mindful* of the decision of the Special Committee in which it expressed its readiness to engage, as appropriate, in the implementation of any decisions that might be taken at the high-level plenary meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly in September 2005 that concerned the Charter and any amendments thereto,<sup>95</sup>

*Recalling* the provisions of its resolutions 50/51 of 11 December 1995, 51/208 of 17 December 1996, 52/162 of 15 December 1997, 53/107 of 8 December 1998, 54/107 of 9 December 1999, 55/157 of 12 December 2000, 56/87 of 12 December 2001, 57/25 of 19 November 2002, 58/80 of 9 December 2003 and 59/45 of 2 December 2004,

*Recalling also* its resolution 64/115 of 16 December 2009 and the document entitled “Introduction and implementation of sanctions imposed by the United Nations” annexed thereto,

*Having considered* the report of the Special Committee on the work of its session held in 2018,<sup>96</sup>

*Noting with appreciation* the work done by the Special Committee to encourage States to focus on the need to prevent and to settle peacefully their disputes which are likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization,<sup>96</sup>

2. *Decides* that the Special Committee shall hold its next session from 19 to 27 February 2019;

3. *Requests* the Special Committee, at its session in 2019, in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 50/52 of 11 December 1995:

(a) To continue its consideration of all proposals concerning the question of the maintenance of international peace and security in all its aspects in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations and, in this context, to consider other proposals relating to the maintenance of international peace and security already submitted or which may be submitted to the Special Committee at its session in 2019, including strengthening the relationship and cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations or arrangements in the peaceful settlement of disputes;

(b) To keep on its agenda the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes between States;

(c) To consider, as appropriate, any proposal referred to it by the General Assembly in the implementation of the decisions of the high-level plenary meeting of the sixtieth session of the Assembly in September 2005 that concern the Charter and any amendments thereto;

(d) To continue to consider, on a priority basis, ways and means of improving its working methods and enhancing its efficiency and utilization of resources with a view to identifying widely acceptable measures for future implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with paragraph 3 of the annex to resolution 71/146 of 13 December 2016, to brief the Special Committee at its next session on the document entitled “Introduction and implementation of sanctions imposed by the United Nations” contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 64/115;

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<sup>92</sup> Ibid., Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 33 (A/61/33), para. 72.

<sup>93</sup> A/73/190.

<sup>94</sup> Resolution 60/1.

<sup>95</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 33 (A/60/33), para. 77.

<sup>96</sup> Ibid., Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 33 (A/73/33).

## VII. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Sixth Committee

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5. *Recalls* its decision, in its resolution 72/118 of 7 December 2017, to undertake an annual thematic debate in the Special Committee, under the agenda item on the peaceful settlement of disputes, to discuss the means for the settlement of disputes, in accordance with Chapter VI of the Charter, including in particular those contained in Article 33 thereof, and consistent with the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes,<sup>97</sup> and in that regard:

(a) Invites Member States to focus their comments during the thematic debate, to be held at the next session of the Special Committee, at the seventy-third session of the General Assembly, on the subtopic “Exchange of information on State practices regarding the use of mediation”, while ensuring that the other means of dispute settlement will be discussed at the subsequent sessions of the Special Committee;

(b) Also invites Member States to comment on the subtopics of the annual debate in their general statements with a view to having the texts of those statements posted on the website of the Special Committee;<sup>98</sup>

(c) Calls upon the Special Committee to include a summary of the subtopics of the annual debate in its annual report for further consideration;

6. *Also recalls* its endorsement of the decisions and recommendations adopted by the Special Committee at its 2016 session, in particular as set forth in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the annex to resolution 71/146;

7. *Invites* the Special Committee, at its session in 2019, to continue to identify new subjects for consideration in its future work with a view to contributing to the revitalization of the work of the United Nations;

8. *Notes* the readiness of the Special Committee to provide, within its mandate, such assistance as may be sought at the request of other subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly in relation to any issues before them;

9. *Requests* the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

10. *Recognizes* the important role of the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, in adjudicating disputes among States and the value of its work, as well as the importance of having recourse to the Court in the peaceful settlement of disputes, notes that, consistent with Article 96 of the Charter, the Court’s advisory jurisdiction may be requested by the General Assembly, the Security Council or other authorized organs of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, and requests the Secretary-General to distribute, in due course, the advisory opinions requested by the principal organs of the United Nations as official documents of the United Nations;

11. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the progress made in the preparation of studies for the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*, including the use of the internship programme of the United Nations and cooperation with academic institutions for this purpose, as well as the progress made towards updating the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*;

12. *Encourages* Member States to identify academic institutions that have the capacity to contribute to the preparation of studies for the *Repertory* and to provide contact details of such institutions;

13. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions made by Member States to the trust fund for the elimination of the backlog in the *Repertory*, as well as to the trust fund for the updating of the *Repertoire*;

14. *Reiterates its call for* voluntary contributions to the trust fund for the elimination of the backlog in the *Repertory* so as to further support the Secretariat in carrying out the effective elimination of that backlog; voluntary contributions to the trust fund for the updating of the *Repertoire*; and the sponsoring, on a voluntary basis and with no cost to the United Nations, of associate experts to assist in the updating of the two publications;

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<sup>97</sup> Resolution 37/10, annex.

<sup>98</sup> <http://legal.un.org/committees/charter>.

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15. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts towards updating the two publications and making them available electronically in all their respective language versions, and encourages the continued updating of the website for the *Repertory*;<sup>99</sup>

16. *Notes with concern* that the backlog in the preparation of volume III of the *Repertory*, although slightly reduced, has not been eliminated, and calls upon the Secretary-General to address that issue effectively and on a priority basis, while commending the Secretary-General for progress made in reducing the backlog;

17. *Reiterates* the responsibility of the Secretary-General for the quality of the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire*, and with regard to the *Repertoire* calls upon the Secretary-General to continue to follow the modalities outlined in paragraphs 102 to 106 of his report dated 18 September 1952,<sup>100</sup>

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on both the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire*;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization”.

### RESOLUTION 73/207

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/553, para. 8)<sup>101</sup>

#### 73/207. The rule of law at the national and international levels

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 72/119 of 7 December 2017,

*Reaffirming its commitment* to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which are indispensable foundations of a more peaceful, prosperous and just world, and reiterating its determination to foster strict respect for them and to establish a just and lasting peace all over the world,

*Reaffirming* that human rights, the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming also* the need for universal adherence to and implementation of the rule of law at both the national and international levels and its solemn commitment to an international order based on the rule of law and international law, which, together with the principles of justice, is essential for peaceful coexistence and cooperation among States,

*Bearing in mind* that the activities of the United Nations carried out in support of efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate the rule of law are undertaken in accordance with the Charter, and stressing the need to strengthen support to Member States, upon their request, in the domestic implementation of their respective international obligations through enhanced technical assistance and capacity-building,

*Convinced* that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels is essential for the realization of sustained economic growth, sustainable development, the eradication of poverty and hunger and the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and acknowledging that collective security depends on effective cooperation, in accordance with the Charter and international law, against transnational threats,

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<sup>99</sup> <http://legal.un.org/repertory>.

<sup>100</sup> A/2170.

<sup>101</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Mexico on behalf of the Bureau.

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*Reaffirming* the duty of all States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations and to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered, in accordance with Chapter VI of the Charter, and calling upon States that have not yet done so to consider accepting the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice in accordance with its Statute,

*Convinced* that the promotion of and respect for the rule of law at the national and international levels, as well as justice and good governance, should guide the activities of the United Nations and its Member States,

*Recalling* paragraph 134 (e) of the 2005 World Summit Outcome,<sup>102</sup>

1. *Recalls* the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels, held during the high-level segment of its sixty-seventh session, and the declaration adopted at that meeting,<sup>103</sup> takes note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 41 of the declaration,<sup>104</sup> and requests the Sixth Committee to continue its consideration of ways and means of further developing the linkages between the rule of law and the three pillars of the United Nations;

2. *Acknowledges* the efforts to strengthen the rule of law through voluntary pledges, encourages all States to consider making pledges, individually or jointly, based on their national priorities, and also encourages those States that have made pledges to continue to exchange information, knowledge and best practices in this regard;

3. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Secretary-General on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities;<sup>105</sup>

4. *Encourages* the Secretary-General and the United Nations system to accord high priority to rule of law activities;

5. *Reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly in encouraging the progressive development of international law and its codification, and further reaffirms that States shall abide by all of their obligations under international law;

6. *Also reaffirms* the imperative of upholding and promoting the rule of law at the international level in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

7. *Further reaffirms* its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>106</sup> and recalls that the goals and targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development;

8. *Recognizes* the role of multilateral and bilateral treaties and treaty processes in advancing the rule of law, and encourages States to further consider the promotion of treaties in areas where international cooperation could benefit from treaties;

9. *Welcomes* the dialogue initiated by the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group and the Rule of Law Unit in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General with Member States on the topic “Promoting the rule of law at the international level”, and calls for the continuation of this dialogue with a view to fostering the rule of law at the international level;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law to the furtherance of United Nations rule of law programmes and activities, emphasizes that further technical assistance and capacity-building initiatives, focused on increasing and improving the participation of Member States in the multilateral treaty process, should be examined, and invites States to support these activities;

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<sup>102</sup> Resolution 60/1.

<sup>103</sup> Resolution 67/1.

<sup>104</sup> A/68/213/Add.1.

<sup>105</sup> A/73/253.

<sup>106</sup> Resolution 70/1.



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11. *Stresses* the importance of adherence to the rule of law at the national level and the need to strengthen support to Member States, upon their request, in the domestic implementation of their respective international obligations through enhanced technical assistance and capacity-building in order to develop, reinforce and maintain domestic institutions active in the promotion of rule of law at the national and international levels, subject to national ownership, strategies and priorities;
12. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure greater coordination and coherence among the United Nations entities and with donors and recipients, and reiterates its call for greater evaluation of the effectiveness of such activities, including possible measures to improve the effectiveness of those capacity-building activities;
13. *Calls*, in this context, for dialogue to be enhanced among all stakeholders, with a view to placing national perspectives at the centre of rule of law assistance in order to strengthen national ownership, while recognizing that rule of law activities must be anchored in a national context and that States have different national experiences in the development of their systems of the rule of law, taking into account their legal, political, socioeconomic, cultural, religious and other local specificities, while also recognizing that there are common features founded on international norms and standards;
14. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the United Nations system to systematically address, as appropriate, aspects of the rule of law in relevant activities, including the participation of women in rule of law-related activities, recognizing the importance of the rule of law to virtually all areas of United Nations engagement;
15. *Expresses full support* for the overall coordination and coherence role of the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group within the United Nations system, within existing mandates, supported by the Rule of Law Unit and under the leadership of the Deputy Secretary-General;
16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, in a timely manner, his next annual report on United Nations rule of law activities, in accordance with paragraph 5 of its resolution [63/128](#) of 11 December 2008, addressing, in a balanced manner, the national and international dimensions of the rule of law;
17. *Recognizes* the importance of restoring confidence in the rule of law as a key element of transitional justice;
18. *Recalls* the commitment of Member States to take all necessary steps to provide fair, transparent, effective, non-discriminatory and accountable services that promote access to justice for all, including legal aid, encourages further dialogue and the sharing of national practices and expertise in strengthening the rule of law through access to justice, including with regard to the provision of birth registration for all, appropriate registration and documentation of refugees, migrants, asylum seekers and stateless persons, and legal aid, where appropriate, in both criminal and civil proceedings, and in this regard recognizes the role of knowledge and technology, including in judicial systems, and stresses the need to intensify the assistance extended to Governments upon their request;
19. *Stresses* the importance of promoting the sharing of national practices and of inclusive dialogue, welcomes the proposals made by the Secretary-General, inviting Member States to voluntarily exchange national best practices on the rule of law in informal meetings and on an electronic depository of best practices on the United Nations rule of law website, and invites Member States to do so;
20. *Invites* the International Court of Justice, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and the International Law Commission to continue to comment, in their respective reports to the General Assembly, on their current roles in promoting the rule of law;
21. *Invites* the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group and the Rule of Law Unit to continue their dialogue with all Member States by interacting with them in a regular, transparent and inclusive manner, in particular in informal briefings;
22. *Stresses* the need for the Rule of Law Unit to carry out its tasks in an effective and sustainable manner and the need to provide it with reasonable means required to that effect;
23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “The rule of law at the national and international levels”, and invites Member States to focus their comments during the upcoming Sixth Committee debate on the subtopic “Sharing best practices and ideas to promote the respect of States for international law”.

RESOLUTION 73/208

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/550, para. 9)<sup>107</sup>

**73/208. The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming its commitment* to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, to international law and to an international order based on the rule of law, which is essential for peaceful coexistence and cooperation among States,

*Recalling* its resolutions 64/117 of 16 December 2009, 65/33 of 6 December 2010, 66/103 of 9 December 2011, 67/98 of 14 December 2012, 68/117 of 16 December 2013, 69/124 of 10 December 2014, 70/119 of 14 December 2015, 71/149 of 13 December 2016 and 72/120 of 7 December 2017,

*Taking into account* the comments and observations of Governments and observers and the discussions held in the Sixth Committee at the sixty-fourth to seventy-third sessions of the General Assembly on the scope and application of universal jurisdiction,<sup>108</sup>

*Noting* the constructive dialogue in the Sixth Committee, including in the context of its working group, recognizing the diversity of views expressed by States, including concerns expressed in relation to the abuse or misuse of the principle of universal jurisdiction, and acknowledging, in order to make progress, the need for continuing discussions on the scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction in the Sixth Committee,

*Reiterating its commitment* to fighting impunity, and noting the views expressed by States that the legitimacy and credibility of the use of universal jurisdiction are best ensured by its responsible and judicious application consistent with international law,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared on the basis of comments and observations of Governments and relevant observers;<sup>109</sup>
2. *Decides* that the Sixth Committee shall continue its consideration of the scope and application of universal jurisdiction, without prejudice to the consideration of this topic and related issues in other forums of the United Nations, and for this purpose decides to establish, at its seventy-fourth session, a working group of the Sixth Committee to continue to undertake a thorough discussion of the scope and application of universal jurisdiction;
3. *Invites* Member States and relevant observers to the General Assembly, as appropriate, to submit, before 26 April 2019, information and observations on the scope and application of universal jurisdiction, including, where appropriate, information on the relevant applicable international treaties and on their national legal rules and judicial practice, and requests the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report based on such information and observations;
4. *Decides* that the working group shall be open to all Member States and that relevant observers will be invited to participate in the work of the working group;
5. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction”.

<sup>107</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of the Gambia on behalf of the Bureau.

<sup>108</sup> See A/C.6/64/SR.12, A/C.6/64/SR.13, A/C.6/64/SR.25 and A/C.6/64/SR.1–28/Corrigendum; A/C.6/65/SR.10, A/C.6/65/SR.11, A/C.6/65/SR.12, A/C.6/65/SR.27 and A/C.6/65/SR.28; A/C.6/66/SR.12, A/C.6/66/SR.13, A/C.6/66/SR.17 and A/C.6/66/SR.29; A/C.6/67/SR.12, A/C.6/67/SR.13, A/C.6/67/SR.24 and A/C.6/67/SR.25; A/C.6/68/SR.12, A/C.6/68/SR.13, A/C.6/68/SR.14 and A/C.6/68/SR.23; A/C.6/69/SR.11, A/C.6/69/SR.12 and A/C.6/69/SR.28; A/C.6/70/SR.12, A/C.6/70/SR.13 and A/C.6/70/SR.27; A/C.6/71/SR.13, A/C.6/71/SR.14, A/C.6/71/SR.15 and A/C.6/71/SR.31; A/C.6/72/SR.13, A/C.6/72/SR.14 and A/C.6/72/SR.28; and A/C.6/73/SR.10, A/C.6/73/SR.11, A/C.6/73/SR.12 and A/C.6/73/SR.33.

<sup>109</sup> A/73/123 and A/73/123/Add.1; see also A/65/181, A/66/93, A/66/93/Add.1, A/67/116, A/68/113, A/69/174, A/70/125, A/71/111 and A/72/112.

### RESOLUTION 73/209

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/558, para. 7)<sup>110</sup>

#### 73/209. Protection of persons in the event of disasters

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 71/141 of 13 December 2016, in which it took note of the draft articles on the protection of persons in the event of disasters adopted by the International Law Commission at its sixty-eighth session,<sup>111</sup>

*Recalling also* that the Commission decided to recommend to the General Assembly the elaboration of a convention on the basis of the draft articles,<sup>112</sup>

*Noting with concern* the increasing number of disasters in the world, as well as their intensity and impact on affected populations,

*Emphasizing* the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 (a), of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Noting* that the subject of the protection of persons in the event of disasters is of major importance in the relations of States,

1. *Takes note* of the views and comments expressed in the debates of the Sixth Committee at the seventy-third session of the General Assembly on this topic,<sup>113</sup> as well as the comments and observations received from Governments on the draft articles on the protection of persons in the event of disasters and on any future action thereon;<sup>114</sup>

2. *Also takes note* of the draft articles on the protection of persons in the event of disasters;<sup>111</sup>

3. *Brings to the attention* of States the recommendation by the International Law Commission that a convention be elaborated on the basis of the draft articles,<sup>112</sup> and requests the Secretary-General to invite Governments that have not yet done so to submit comments thereon;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session the item entitled “Protection of persons in the event of disasters”.

### RESOLUTION 73/210

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/560, para. 7)<sup>115</sup>

#### 73/210. Strengthening and promoting the international treaty framework

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 23 (I) of 10 February 1946, 97 (I) of 14 December 1946, 364 B (IV) of 1 December 1949, 482 (V) of 12 December 1950, 32/144 of 16 December 1977, 33/141 A of 19 December 1978 and 51/158 of 16 December 1996,

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<sup>110</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Thailand on behalf of the Bureau.

<sup>111</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/71/10)*, para. 48.

<sup>112</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 46.

<sup>113</sup> See A/C.6/73/SR.31.

<sup>114</sup> See A/73/229.

<sup>115</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Brazil on behalf of the Bureau.

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*Recalling also* its resolution [71/328](#) of 11 September 2017, which recognizes that multilingualism is a core value of the Organization that contributes to the achievement of the goals of the United Nations,

*Conscious* of the obligations resulting from Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations and the importance of treaties in the development of international law and the international legal order,

*Noting with appreciation* the role of the Secretariat, in particular the Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs, in the implementation of Article 102 of the Charter,

*Noting* that the considerable increase in the number of treaties submitted for registration over the past years has led to the growth in the volume of work carried out by the Treaty Section, contributing to the accumulation of unpublished treaties,

*Noting also* that, while the authentic texts of registered treaties are promptly made available online through the electronic treaty database, there is currently a significant backlog in the publication of the United Nations *Treaty Series* due to growing delays in the translation of treaties related, inter alia, to the limited resources available for the publication process,

*Recognizing* the importance of the expeditious processing, registration and publication of treaties and treaty-related actions,

*Supporting* the efforts of the Secretary-General to increase the efficiency of the registration and publication process within available resources and to enhance the role played by the Treaty Section in assisting Member States in this area,

*Welcoming* the measures taken by the Treaty Section to expedite the publication of the United Nations *Treaty Series* and to provide electronic access to all of its publications on the website of the United Nations Treaty Collection, and recognizing the role that new technology can play in the accessibility of the United Nations *Treaty Series*,

*Recognizing* that practice and technology have developed considerably since the last amendment to the General Assembly regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the Charter, and acknowledging the importance of maintaining consistency with treaty-making practice in the international community,

*Bearing in mind* the provisions of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties,<sup>116</sup> and considering its adoption on 22 May 1969 by the United Nations Conference on the Law of Treaties,

*Convinced* of the need to further gather and exchange views on practice relating to the strengthening and promoting of the international treaty framework,

1. *Recalls* Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations, reaffirms the importance of the registration and publication of treaties, as well as their accessibility, and stresses that the regulations to give effect to Article 102 should be useful and relevant to Member States and should be kept updated to assist States in implementing their obligations thereunder;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Review of the regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations”,<sup>117</sup> submitted pursuant to its resolution [71/148](#) of 13 December 2016, and the recommendations contained therein for consideration by the General Assembly;

3. *Amends* the regulations as detailed in the annex to the present resolution, which, as amended, will apply as from 1 February 2019;

4. *Notes* that some Member States consider that there remain outstanding issues where the regulations may need further consideration or possible updating;

5. *Reaffirms its support* for the annual treaty event organized by the Secretary-General;

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<sup>116</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1155, No. 18232.

<sup>117</sup> [A/72/86](#).

6. *Welcomes* the organization of workshops on treaty practice by the Treaty Section at Headquarters and at the national and regional levels as an important capacity-building initiative, encourages the Treaty Section to continue to do so as regularly as possible, and invites States to continue to support this activity;

7. *Also welcomes* efforts to build the capacity of States in treaty law and practice, and invites Member States to consider providing targeted technical assistance, upon request, at the bilateral, regional and multilateral levels, in particular to developing countries, in order to develop and enhance their treaty practice, including in the use of information and communications technology;

8. *Further welcomes* the efforts made to develop and enhance the United Nations electronic treaty database, which provides online access to comprehensive information on the depositary functions of the Secretary-General and the registration and publication of treaties under Article 102 of the Charter, and encourages the continuation of such efforts in the future, while bearing in mind the challenges that many developing countries face in accessing information and communications technology;

9. *Recognizes* the importance of the legal publications prepared by the Treaty Section, and stresses the need to update the *Summary of Practice of the Secretary-General as Depositary of Multilateral Treaties* in the light of new developments and practices;

10. *Acknowledges* the efforts of the depositaries in the registration of treaties under Article 102 of the Charter, and encourages the continuation of such efforts in the future;

11. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to ensure the expedited publication of the United Nations *Treaty Series*, in accordance with the regulations, through the prompt provision of editorial and translation services, to enable effective dissemination of and access to treaties;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide, at its seventy-fifth session, a report, following broad consultations with Member States, with information on practice and possible options to review the regulations, taking into account outstanding issues identified by Member States;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session the item entitled “Strengthening and promoting the international treaty framework”.

## **Annex**

### **Regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations**

#### **Part One**

#### **Registration**

##### **Article 1**

1. Every treaty or international agreement, whatever its form and descriptive name, entered into by one or more Members of the United Nations after 24 October 1945, the date of the coming into force of the Charter, shall as soon as possible be registered with the Secretariat in accordance with these regulations.

2. Registration shall not take place until the treaty or international agreement has come into force between two or more of the parties thereto.

3. Such registration may be effected by any party or in accordance with article 4 of these regulations. Without prejudice to the right of a party to a treaty or international agreement to submit it for registration, when a treaty or international agreement designates a depositary, the depositary is encouraged to effect registration unless otherwise provided in the treaty or international agreement or agreed by its parties.

4. The Secretariat shall record the treaties and international agreements so registered in a register established for that purpose.

##### **Article 2**

1. When a treaty or international agreement has been registered with the Secretariat, a certified statement regarding any subsequent action which effects a change in the parties thereto, or the terms, scope or application thereof, shall also be registered with the Secretariat.

2. The Secretariat shall record the certified statement so registered in the register established under article 1 of these regulations.

### Article 3

1. Registration by a party, in accordance with article 1 of these regulations, relieves all other parties of the obligation to register. Registration by a depositary, in accordance with article 1 of these regulations, relieves all parties of the obligation to register.
2. Registration effected in accordance with article 4 of these regulations relieves all parties of the obligation to register.

### Article 4

1. Every treaty or international agreement subject to article 1 of these regulations shall be registered ex officio by the United Nations in the following cases:
  - (a) Where the United Nations is a party to the treaty or international agreement;
  - (b) Where the United Nations has been authorized by the treaty or international agreement to effect registration;
  - (c) Where the United Nations is the depositary of a multilateral treaty or international agreement.
2. A treaty or international agreement subject to article 1 of these regulations may be registered with the Secretariat by a specialized agency in the following cases:
  - (a) Where the constituent instrument of the specialized agency provides for such registration;
  - (b) Where the treaty or international agreement has been registered with the specialized agency pursuant to the terms of its constituent instrument;
  - (c) Where the specialized agency has been authorized by the treaty or international agreement to effect registration.

### Article 5

1. Any submission for registration under article 1 or 4 of these regulations shall include a certified copy of the treaty or international agreement, either in electronic or hard-copy format, together with a statement certifying that the text is a true and complete copy thereof.
2. The certified copy shall reproduce the text in all the languages in which the treaty or international agreement was concluded, including all annexes or attachments constituting an integral part of the treaty or international agreement. In the case of multilateral treaties or agreements, it shall also include the text of all reservations or declarations made or confirmed by the parties at the time of deposit of their instruments of consent to be bound, in all authentic languages in which these reservations or declarations were made.
3. The certifying statement shall set forth:
  - (a) The full title of the treaty or international agreement;
  - (b) The date(s) and place(s) of conclusion of the treaty or international agreement;
  - (c) The date on which the treaty or international agreement has come into force;
  - (d) The method whereby it has come into force (for example: by signature, by ratification, approval or acceptance, by accession, etcetera);
  - (e) The authentic languages in which it was concluded;



(f) When applicable, the names and official titles of the persons that have signed the treaty or international agreement on behalf of each party.

4. In the case of multilateral treaties or agreements, the certifying statement shall include, in addition to the information described in paragraph 3 of this article:

(a) A list of all the parties to the treaty or international agreement, indicating the date of deposit of each party's instrument of consent to be bound, the nature of such instrument (ratification, approval, acceptance, accession, etcetera) and the date of entry into force of the treaty for each party; and

(b) A certification that it includes all reservations or declarations made by parties thereto.

5. The requirements set forth in this article shall also apply to subsequent actions submitted pursuant to article 2 of these regulations.

#### **Article 6**

The date of receipt by the Secretariat of the United Nations of the treaty or international agreement registered shall be deemed to be the date of registration, provided that the date of registration of a treaty or agreement registered ex officio by the United Nations shall be the date on which the treaty or agreement first came into force between two or more of the parties thereto.

#### **Article 7**

A certificate of registration signed by the Secretary-General, or his or her representative, shall be issued to the registering party, or specialized agency or depositary, and also, upon request, to any party to the treaty or international agreement registered. Certificates of registration shall also be made public through electronic means.

#### **Article 8**

1. The register shall be kept in the English and French languages. The register shall comprise in respect of each treaty or international agreement, a record of:

(a) The serial number given in the order of registration;

(b) The title given to the instrument by the parties;

(c) The names of the parties between whom it was concluded;

(d) The dates of signature, ratification, approval or acceptance, exchange of ratification, accession, and entry into force;

(e) The duration, where appropriate;

(f) The language or languages in which it was drawn up;

(g) The name of the party, specialized agency or depositary which registers the instrument and the date of such registration;

(h) Particulars of publication in the treaty series of the United Nations.

2. Such information shall also be included in the register in regard to the statements registered under article 2 of these regulations.

3. The texts of registered treaties or international agreements, together with the certifying statements, shall remain in the custody of the Secretariat.

#### **Article 9**

The Secretary-General, or his or her representative, shall ensure that the register is publicly accessible, including through electronic means.

## **Part Two**

### **Filing and recording**

#### **Article 10**

The Secretariat shall file and record treaties and international agreements, other than those subject to registration under article 1 of these regulations, if they fall in the following categories:

(a) Treaties or international agreements entered into by the United Nations or by one or more of the specialized agencies;

(b) Treaties or international agreements transmitted by a Member of the United Nations which were entered into before the coming into force of the Charter, but which were not included in the treaty series of the League of Nations;

(c) Treaties or international agreements transmitted by a party not a member of the United Nations which were entered into before or after the coming into force of the Charter which were not included in the treaty series of the League of Nations.

#### **Article 11**

The provisions of articles 2, 5 and 8 of these regulations shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to all treaties and international agreements filed and recorded under article 10 of these regulations.

## **Part Three**

### **Publication**

#### **Article 12**

1. The Secretariat shall publish as soon as possible in a single series every treaty or international agreement which is registered or filed and recorded, in the original language or languages, followed by a translation in English and in French. The certified statements referred to in article 2 of these regulations shall be published in the same manner.

2. The Secretariat will, however, have the option not to publish in extenso a bilateral treaty or international agreement belonging to one of the following categories:

(a) Assistance and cooperation agreements of limited scope concerning financial, commercial, administrative or technical matters;

(b) Agreements relating to the organization of conferences, seminars or meetings;

(c) Agreements that are to be published otherwise than in the series mentioned in paragraph 1 of this article by the United Nations Secretariat, or by a specialized or related agency.

3. In deciding whether or not to publish in extenso a treaty or international agreement belonging to one of the categories mentioned in paragraph 2 of this article, the Secretariat shall duly take into account, *inter alia*, the practical value that might accrue from in extenso publication. Treaties and international agreements that the Secretariat intends not to publish in extenso shall be identified as such in the register, it being understood that a decision not to publish in extenso may be reversed at any time.

4. Any State or intergovernmental organization may obtain from the Secretary-General a copy of the text of any treaty or international agreement which it has been decided, pursuant to paragraph 2 of this article, not to publish in extenso. The Secretariat shall likewise make a copy of any such treaty or agreement available to private persons against payment.

5. In respect of each treaty or international agreement registered or filed and recorded, the series referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall include at least the following information: the registration or recording number, the names of the parties, the title, the date and place of conclusion, the date and method of entry into force, the duration (where appropriate), the languages of conclusion, the name of the State or organization that has registered it or transmitted it for filing and recording, and, if appropriate, references to publications in which the complete text of the treaty or international agreement is reproduced.

### Article 13

The Secretariat shall make available the series referred to in article 12 of these regulations through any electronic means that may be available. It shall send printed copies of the series to Members of the United Nations, upon request.

### RESOLUTION 73/211

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/551, para. 9)<sup>118</sup>

#### 73/211. Measures to eliminate international terrorism

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,*

*Reaffirming*, in all its aspects, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted on 8 September 2006,<sup>119</sup> which enhances the overall framework for the efforts of the international community to effectively counter the scourge of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and recalling the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth biennial reviews of the Strategy, on 4 and 5 September 2008, 8 September 2010, 28 and 29 June 2012, 12 and 13 June 2014, 30 June and 1 July 2016, and 26 and 27 June 2018, respectively, and the debates that were held on those occasions,<sup>120</sup>

*Recalling* its resolutions 62/272 of 5 September 2008, 64/297 of 8 September 2010, 66/282 of 29 June 2012, 68/276 of 13 June 2014, 70/291 of 1 July 2016 and 72/284 of 26 June 2018,

*Recalling also* its resolution 66/10 of 18 November 2011,

*Recalling further* the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,<sup>121</sup>

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>122</sup>

*Recalling also* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,<sup>123</sup> and reaffirming, in particular, the section on terrorism,

*Recalling further* the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 49/60 of 9 December 1994, and the Declaration to Supplement the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996,

*Recalling* all General Assembly resolutions on measures to eliminate international terrorism and Security Council resolutions on threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts,

*Convinced* of the importance of the consideration of measures to eliminate international terrorism by the General Assembly as the universal organ having competence to do so,

*Deeply disturbed* by the persistence of terrorist acts, which have been carried out worldwide,

*Reaffirming its strong condemnation* of the heinous acts of terrorism that have caused enormous loss of human life, destruction and damage, including those which prompted the adoption of General Assembly resolution 56/1 of 12 September 2001, as well as Security Council resolutions 1368 (2001) of 12 September 2001, 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 and 1377 (2001) of 12 November 2001, and those that have occurred since,

*Reaffirming also its strong condemnation* of the atrocious and deliberate attacks that have occurred against United Nations offices in various parts of the world,

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<sup>118</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Canada on behalf of the Bureau.

<sup>119</sup> Resolution 60/288.

<sup>120</sup> See A/62/PV.117, A/62/PV.118, A/62/PV.119, A/62/PV.120, A/64/PV.116, A/64/PV.117, A/66/PV.118, A/66/PV.119, A/66/PV.120, A/68/PV.94, A/68/PV.95, A/68/PV.96, A/68/PV.97, A/70/PV.108, A/70/PV.109, A/70/PV.110, A/72/PV.101, A/72/PV.102 and A/72/PV.103.

<sup>121</sup> Resolution 50/6.

<sup>122</sup> Resolution 55/2.

<sup>123</sup> Resolution 60/1.

*Affirming* that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with all their obligations under international law and must adopt such measures in accordance with international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

*Stressing* the need to strengthen further international cooperation among States and among international organizations and agencies, regional and subregional organizations and arrangements and the United Nations in order to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, in accordance with the principles of the Charter, international law and the relevant international conventions,

*Noting* the role of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning counter-terrorism in monitoring the implementation of that resolution, including the taking of the necessary financial, legal and technical measures by States and the ratification or acceptance of the relevant international conventions and protocols,

*Mindful* of the need to enhance the role of the United Nations and the relevant specialized agencies in combating international terrorism and of the proposals of the Secretary-General to enhance the role of the Organization in this respect,

*Recalling* its resolution [71/291](#) of 15 June 2017, by which it decided to establish the Office of Counter-Terrorism,

*Noting* the United Nations High-level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies of Member States, held in New York on 28 and 29 June 2018, the participants of which included representatives of Member States, regional organizations, civil society organizations and the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities, further noting the intention of the Secretary-General to convene another such conference, and encouraging the Secretary-General to consult Member States in this regard,

*Mindful* of the essential need to strengthen international, regional and subregional cooperation aimed at enhancing the national capacity of States to prevent and effectively suppress international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

*Reiterating its call upon* States to review urgently the scope of the existing international legal provisions on the prevention, repression and elimination of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, with the aim of ensuring that there is a comprehensive legal framework covering all aspects of the matter,

*Emphasizing* that tolerance and dialogue among civilizations and the enhancement of interfaith and intercultural understanding are among the most important elements in promoting cooperation and success in combating terrorism, and welcoming the various initiatives to this end,

*Reaffirming* that no terrorist act can be justified in any circumstances,

*Recalling* Security Council resolution [1624 \(2005\)](#) of 14 September 2005, and bearing in mind that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

*Noting* recent developments and initiatives at the international, regional and subregional levels to prevent and suppress international terrorism,

*Noting also* regional and subregional efforts to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, including through the elaboration of and adherence to regional conventions,

*Recalling* its decision in resolutions [54/110](#) of 9 December 1999, [55/158](#) of 12 December 2000, [56/88](#) of 12 December 2001, [57/27](#) of 19 November 2002, [58/81](#) of 9 December 2003, [59/46](#) of 2 December 2004, [60/43](#) of 8 December 2005, [61/40](#) of 4 December 2006, [62/71](#) of 6 December 2007, [63/129](#) of 11 December 2008, [64/118](#) of 16 December 2009, [65/34](#) of 6 December 2010, [66/105](#) of 9 December 2011 and [67/99](#) of 14 December 2012 that the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution [51/210](#) of 17 December 1996 should address, and keep on its agenda, the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

*Recalling also* that, in the Final Document of the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, adopted on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on 18 September 2016, the

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Heads of State or Government reiterated the collective position of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries on combating international terrorism and reaffirmed its previous initiative calling for an international summit conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as other relevant initiatives,

*Noting* the importance of continuing to strive towards achieving a world free of terrorism,

*Bearing in mind* its resolutions [57/219](#) of 18 December 2002, [58/187](#) of 22 December 2003, [59/191](#) of 20 December 2004, [60/158](#) of 16 December 2005, [61/171](#) of 19 December 2006, [62/159](#) of 18 December 2007, [63/185](#) of 18 December 2008, [64/168](#) of 18 December 2009, [65/221](#) of 21 December 2010, [66/171](#) of 19 December 2011, [68/178](#) of 18 December 2013, [70/148](#) of 17 December 2015 and [72/180](#) of 19 December 2017,

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General<sup>124</sup> and the oral report of the Chair of the Working Group of the Sixth Committee on its work during the seventy-third session,<sup>125</sup>

1. *Strongly condemns* all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as criminal and unjustifiable, wherever and by whomsoever committed;

2. *Calls upon* all Member States, the United Nations and other appropriate international, regional and subregional organizations to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,<sup>119</sup> as well as the resolutions relating to the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth biennial reviews of the Strategy,<sup>126</sup> in all its aspects at the international, regional, subregional and national levels without delay, including by mobilizing resources and expertise;

3. *Recalls* the pivotal role of the General Assembly in following up the implementation and the updating of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, looks forward to the seventh biennial review, in 2020, and in this regard recalls its invitation to the Secretary-General to contribute to the future deliberations of the Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General when doing so to provide information on relevant activities within the Secretariat to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system;

4. *Reiterates* that criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes are in any circumstances unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other nature that may be invoked to justify them;

5. *Reiterates its call upon* all States to adopt further measures in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant provisions of international law, including international standards of human rights, to prevent terrorism and to strengthen international cooperation in combating terrorism and, to that end, to consider, in particular, the implementation of the measures set out in paragraphs 3 (a) to (f) of General Assembly resolution [51/210](#);

6. *Also reiterates its call upon* all States, with the aim of enhancing the efficient implementation of relevant legal instruments, to intensify, as and where appropriate, the exchange of information on facts related to terrorism and, in so doing, to avoid the dissemination of inaccurate or unverified information;

7. *Reiterates its call upon* States to refrain from financing, encouraging, providing training for or otherwise supporting terrorist activities;

8. *Expresses concern* at the increase in incidents of kidnapping and hostage-taking with demands for ransom and/or political concessions by terrorist groups, and expresses the need to address this issue;

9. *Expresses grave concern* over the acute and growing threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters, namely, individuals who travel to a State other than their States of residence or nationality for the purpose of the perpetration, planning or preparation of, or participation in, terrorist acts or providing or receiving terrorist training, including in connection with armed conflict, emphasizes the need for States to address this issue, including through the

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<sup>124</sup> [A/73/125](#).

<sup>125</sup> See [A/C.6/73/SR.33](#).

<sup>126</sup> Resolutions [62/272](#), [64/297](#), [66/282](#), [68/276](#), [70/291](#) and [72/284](#).

implementation of their international obligations, and underlines the importance of United Nations capacity-building and facilitation of capacity-building in accordance with existing mandates to assist States, including those in the most affected regions, upon their request;

10. *Emphasizes* the need for States to cooperate resolutely against international terrorism by taking speedy and effective measures to eliminate this scourge, and in this regard calls upon all States, in accordance with their obligations under applicable international law and the Charter, to deny safe haven and bring to justice or, where appropriate, extradite, on the basis of the principle of extradite or prosecute, the perpetrators of terrorist acts or any person who supports, facilitates or participates or attempts to participate in the financing, planning or preparation of terrorist acts;

11. *Urges* States to ensure that their nationals or other persons and entities within their territory that wilfully provide or collect funds for the benefit of persons or entities who commit, or attempt to commit, facilitate or participate in the commission of terrorist acts are punished by penalties consistent with the grave nature of such acts;

12. *Reminds* States of their obligations under relevant international conventions and protocols, and Security Council resolutions, including Council resolution 1373 (2001), to ensure that perpetrators of terrorist acts are brought to justice, and recalls the General Assembly resolutions on measures to eliminate international terrorism;

13. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation as well as actions by States to combat terrorism should be conducted in conformity with the principles of the Charter, international law and relevant international conventions;

14. *Recalls* the adoption of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,<sup>127</sup> the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material,<sup>128</sup> the Protocol of 2005 to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation<sup>129</sup> and the Protocol of 2005 to the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf,<sup>130</sup> and urges all States to consider, as a matter of priority, becoming parties to these instruments;

15. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider, as a matter of priority and in accordance with Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and Council resolution 1566 (2004) of 8 October 2004, becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols as referred to in paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 51/210, as well as the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings,<sup>131</sup> the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism,<sup>132</sup> the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, and calls upon all States to enact, as appropriate, the national legislation necessary to implement the provisions of those conventions and protocols, to ensure that the jurisdiction of their courts enables them to bring to trial the perpetrators of terrorist acts and to cooperate with and provide support and assistance to other States and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to that end;

16. *Urges* States to cooperate with the Secretary-General and with one another, as well as with interested intergovernmental organizations, with a view to ensuring, where appropriate within existing mandates, that technical and other expert advice is provided to those States requiring and requesting assistance in becoming parties to and implementing the conventions and protocols referred to in paragraph 15 above;

17. *Notes with appreciation and satisfaction* that, consistent with the call contained in paragraphs 14 and 15 of General Assembly resolution 72/123 of 7 December 2017, a number of States became parties to the relevant conventions and protocols referred to therein, thereby realizing the objective of wider acceptance and implementation of those conventions;

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<sup>127</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2445, No. 44004.

<sup>128</sup> Adopted on 8 July 2005 by the Conference to Consider and Adopt Proposed Amendments to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (International Atomic Energy Agency, document GOV/INF/2005/10-GC(49)/INF/6, attachment).

<sup>129</sup> Adopted on 14 October 2005 by the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the SUA Treaties (International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.15/21).

<sup>130</sup> Adopted on 14 October 2005 by the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the SUA Treaties (International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.15/22).

<sup>131</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2149, No. 37517.

<sup>132</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2178, No. 38349.



18. *Reaffirms* the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution [49/60](#), and the Declaration to Supplement the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to Assembly resolution [51/210](#), and calls upon all States to implement them;

19. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate to prevent and suppress terrorist acts;

20. *Urges* all States and the Secretary-General, in their efforts to prevent international terrorism, to make the best use of the existing institutions of the United Nations;

21. *Notes* that the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre is performing its duties within the Office of Counter-Terrorism and that the Centre is supporting the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and encourages all Member States to collaborate with the Centre and to contribute to the implementation of its activities within the Office;

22. *Requests* the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Vienna to continue its efforts to enhance, through its mandate, the capabilities of the United Nations in the prevention of terrorism, and recognizes, in the context of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Security Council resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#), its role in assisting States in becoming parties to and implementing the relevant international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, including the most recent among them, and in strengthening international cooperation mechanisms in criminal matters related to terrorism, including through national capacity-building;

23. *Invites* regional intergovernmental organizations to submit to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted at the regional level to eliminate international terrorism, as well as on intergovernmental meetings held by those organizations;

24. *Decides* to recommend that the Sixth Committee, at the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly, establish a working group with a view to finalizing the process on the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism as well as discussions on the item included in its agenda by Assembly resolution [54/110](#) concerning the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations;

25. *Recognizes* the valuable dialogue and efforts of Member States towards resolving any outstanding issues, and encourages all Member States to redouble their efforts during the intersessional period;

26. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Measures to eliminate international terrorism”.

### RESOLUTION 73/212

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee ([A/73/552](#), para. 9)<sup>133</sup>

#### 73/212. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country,<sup>134</sup>

*Recalling* Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,<sup>135</sup> the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations<sup>136</sup> and the responsibilities of the host country,

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<sup>133</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire and Cyprus.

<sup>134</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 26 (A/73/26).*

<sup>135</sup> Resolution [22 A \(I\)](#).

<sup>136</sup> See resolution [169 \(II\)](#).

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*Recalling also* that, in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution [2819 \(XXVI\)](#) of 15 December 1971, the Committee should consider, and advise the host country on, issues arising in connection with the implementation of the Headquarters Agreement,

*Recognizing* that effective measures should continue to be taken by the competent authorities of the host country, in particular to prevent any acts violating the security of missions and the safety of their personnel,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in paragraph 111 of its report;<sup>134</sup>

2. *Considers* that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the normal work of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations and the observance of their privileges and immunities, which cannot be subject to any restrictions arising from the bilateral relations of the host country, are in the interest of the United Nations and all Member States, takes seriously the recent concerns raised by permanent missions regarding the normal performance of their functions, requests the host country to continue to solve, through negotiations, problems that might arise and to take all measures necessary to prevent any interference with the functioning of missions, and urges the host country to continue to take appropriate action, such as the training of police, security, customs and border control officers, with a view to maintaining respect for diplomatic privileges and immunities and, if violations occur, to ensure that such cases are properly investigated and remedied, in accordance with applicable law;

3. *Recalls* the privileges and immunities applicable to the premises of the permanent missions to the United Nations enjoyed under international law, in particular the instruments listed in paragraph 111 (a) of the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, and the obligations of the host country to observe such privileges and immunities, takes note of the alleged ongoing violations thereof by the host country and of the concerns expressed thereon, urges the host country to remove without delay any restrictions applied to the premises of a Permanent Mission inconsistent with those privileges and immunities, and in that regard to ensure respect for such privileges and immunities, takes seriously the lack of resolution of these matters and the concerns expressed about such lack of resolution, remains seized of these matters, and anticipates that they shall be duly addressed in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law;

4. *Also recalls* that, prior to the institution by the host country of any proceedings that require any person referred to in article IV, section 11, of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,<sup>136</sup> including representatives of a Member State, to leave the host country, article IV, section 13 (b) (1) of the Headquarters Agreement, *inter alia*, requires the host country to consult with the Member State, the Secretary-General or other principal executive officer, as appropriate, and considers that, given the seriousness of any such measure being exercised by the host country, the consultation should be meaningful;

5. *Notes* the problems experienced by some permanent missions to the United Nations in connection with the implementation of the Parking Programme for Diplomatic Vehicles,<sup>137</sup> and notes that the Committee shall remain seized of the matter, with a view to continuing to maintain the proper implementation of the Parking Programme in a manner that is fair, non-discriminatory, effective and therefore consistent with international law;

6. *Requests again* the host country to consider removing the remaining travel restrictions imposed by it on staff of certain missions and staff members of the Secretariat of certain nationalities, and in this regard takes seriously recent concerns and notes the long-standing positions of affected States, of the Secretary-General and of the host country;

7. *Recalls* article IV of the Headquarters Agreement, and notes the concerns expressed by some delegations concerning the denial and delay of entry visas to representatives of Member States;

8. *Notes* that the Committee anticipates that the host country will continue to enhance its efforts to ensure the issuance of entry visas to representatives of Member States and members of the Secretariat pursuant to article IV, section 11, of the Headquarters Agreement and, in a timely manner, to enable persons assigned as members of permanent missions or recruited to serve in the Secretariat to take up their assignments as promptly as possible and to enable representatives of Member States to travel to New York on United Nations business, and that the Committee

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<sup>137</sup> [A/AC.154/355](#), annex.

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anticipates that the host country will continue to enhance efforts, including visa issuance, to facilitate the participation of representatives of Member States in other United Nations meetings, as appropriate;

9. *Also notes* that a number of delegations have requested shortening the time frame applied by the host country for issuance of entry visas to representatives of Member States since the time frame poses difficulties for the full-fledged participation of Member States in United Nations meetings, and invites the host country to inform the Committee, as appropriate, of efforts to address such difficulties;

10. *Notes with concern* the difficulties experienced by some permanent missions to the United Nations in obtaining suitable banking services, and welcomes the continued efforts of the host country to facilitate the opening of bank accounts for those permanent missions;

11. *Stresses* the need for the permanent missions and the United Nations to benefit from appropriate banking services, and anticipates that the host country will continue to assist the permanent missions accredited to the United Nations and their staff in obtaining such services;

12. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the host country, and expects that the issues raised at the meetings of the Committee will be resolved in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law, including the Headquarters Agreement;

13. *Affirms* the importance of the Committee being in a position to fulfil its mandate and meet on short notice to deal with urgent and important matters concerning the relations between the United Nations and the host country, and in that connection requests the Secretariat and the Committee on Conferences to accord priority to requests from the Committee on Relations with the Host Country for conference-servicing facilities for meetings of that Committee that must be held while the General Assembly and its Main Committees are meeting, without prejudice to the requirements of those bodies and on an “as available” basis;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain actively engaged in all aspects of the relations of the United Nations with the host country and to actively engage in the work of the Committee with a view to ensuring the representation of the interests concerned, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI), and recalls that the Secretary-General may bring to the attention of the Committee issues of mutual concern relating to the implementation of the Headquarters Agreement and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations;<sup>135</sup>

15. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) and, in this framework, to continue to consider additional appropriate measures to enhance the work of the Committee and its effectiveness;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country”.

### RESOLUTION 73/213

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/463, para. 7)<sup>138</sup>

#### 73/213. Observer status for the New Development Bank in the General Assembly

*The General Assembly,*

*Wishing* to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the New Development Bank,

1. *Decides* to invite the New Development Bank to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the action necessary to implement the present resolution.

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<sup>138</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Brazil, China, India, Netherlands, Nigeria, Portugal, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sudan and Syrian Arab Republic.

### RESOLUTION 73/214

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/465, para. 7)<sup>139</sup>

#### **73/214. Observer status for the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea in the General Assembly**

*The General Assembly,*

*Wishing* to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea,

1. *Decides* to invite the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;
2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the action necessary to implement the present resolution.

### RESOLUTION 73/215

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/462, para. 7)<sup>140</sup>

#### **73/215. Observer status for the European Public Law Organization in the General Assembly**

*The General Assembly,*

*Wishing* to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the European Public Law Organization,

1. *Decides* to invite the European Public Law Organization to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;
2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the action necessary to implement the present resolution.

### RESOLUTION 73/216

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/464, para. 7)<sup>141</sup>

#### **73/216. Observer status for the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank in the General Assembly**

*The General Assembly,*

*Wishing* to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank,

1. *Decides* to invite the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;
2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the action necessary to implement the present resolution.

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<sup>139</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Iceland, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Seychelles, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

<sup>140</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine.

<sup>141</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, China, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tonga, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Viet Nam.

**RESOLUTION 73/217**

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 20 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/466, para. 7)<sup>142</sup>

**73/217. Observer status for the International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries in the General Assembly**

*The General Assembly,*

*Wishing* to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries,

1. *Decides* to invite the International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;
2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the action necessary to implement the present resolution.

**RESOLUTION 73/265**

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2018, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/73/556, para. 12)<sup>143</sup>

**73/265. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventieth session**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventieth session,<sup>144</sup>

*Emphasizing* the importance of furthering the progressive development and codification of international law as a means of implementing the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,<sup>145</sup>

*Recognizing* the desirability of referring legal and drafting questions to the Sixth Committee, including topics that might be submitted to the International Law Commission for closer examination, and of enabling the Sixth Committee and the Commission to enhance further their contribution to the progressive development and codification of international law,

*Recalling* the need to keep under review those topics of international law which, given their new or renewed interest for the international community, may be suitable for the progressive development and codification of international law and therefore may be included in the future programme of work of the International Law Commission,

*Recalling also* the role of Member States in submitting proposals for new topics for the consideration of the International Law Commission, and noting in this regard the recommendation of the Commission that such proposals be accompanied by a statement of reasons,

*Reaffirming* the importance for the successful work of the International Law Commission of the information provided by Member States concerning their views and practice,

*Recognizing* the importance of the work of the special rapporteurs of the International Law Commission,

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<sup>142</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Armenia, Austria, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Paraguay, Portugal, Sudan, Tajikistan and Zambia.

<sup>143</sup> The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Peru on behalf of the Bureau.

<sup>144</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/73/10).*

<sup>145</sup> Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

## VII. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Sixth Committee

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*Welcoming* the holding of the International Law Seminar, and noting with appreciation the voluntary contributions made to the United Nations trust fund for the International Law Seminar,

*Acknowledging* the importance of facilitating the timely publication of the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission* and of eliminating the backlog,

*Stressing* the usefulness of focusing and structuring the debate on the report of the International Law Commission in the Sixth Committee in such a manner that conditions are provided for concentrated attention to each of the main topics dealt with in the report and for discussions on specific topics,

*Wishing* to enhance further, in the context of the revitalization of the debate on the report of the International Law Commission, the interaction between the Sixth Committee as a body of governmental representatives and the Commission as a body of independent legal experts, with a view to improving the dialogue between the two bodies,

*Welcoming* initiatives to hold interactive debates, panel discussions and question time in the Sixth Committee, as envisaged in General Assembly resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004 on further measures for the revitalization of the work of the Assembly,

*Welcoming also* the seventieth anniversary commemorative meetings held in New York and Geneva, which took place under the overarching theme of “70 years of the International Law Commission – Drawing a balance for the future”, as well as the discussions which took place, inter alia, on the working methods of the Commission,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventieth session;<sup>144</sup>
2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for the work accomplished at its seventieth session, and notes in particular:
  - (a) The completion of the second reading of the draft conclusions on subsequent agreements and subsequent practice in relation to the interpretation of treaties;<sup>146</sup>
  - (b) The completion of the second reading of the draft conclusions on identification of customary international law;<sup>147</sup>
  - (c) The completion of the first reading of the draft guidelines on the protection of the atmosphere;<sup>148</sup>
  - (d) The completion of the first reading of the draft Guide to Provisional Application of Treaties;<sup>149</sup>
3. *Recommends* that the International Law Commission continue its work on the topics in its current programme of work, taking into account the comments and observations of Governments, whether submitted in writing or expressed orally in debates in the Sixth Committee;
4. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the importance for the International Law Commission of having their views by 31 December 2018 on the various aspects of the topics on the agenda of the Commission, in particular on all the specific issues identified in chapter III of its report, regarding:
  - (a) Peremptory norms of general international law (*jus cogens*);
  - (b) Immunity of State officials from foreign criminal jurisdiction;
  - (c) Protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts;
  - (d) Succession of States in respect of State responsibility;
5. *Also draws the attention* of Governments to the importance for the International Law Commission of having their comments and observations on the draft articles on crimes against humanity, adopted on first reading by the Commission at its sixty-ninth session;<sup>150</sup>

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<sup>146</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/73/10)*, chap. IV, sect. E.

<sup>147</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. V, sect. E.

<sup>148</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. VI, sect. C.

<sup>149</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. VII, sect. C.

<sup>150</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/72/10)*, para. 43.



## VII. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Sixth Committee

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6. *Further draws the attention* of Governments to the importance for the International Law Commission of having their comments and observations by 15 December 2019 on the draft guidelines on the protection of the atmosphere and on the draft Guide to Provisional Application of Treaties, adopted on first reading by the Commission at its seventieth session;<sup>151</sup>

7. *Takes note* of the decision of the International Law Commission to include the topic “General principles of law” in its programme of work,<sup>152</sup> and encourages the Commission to continue the examination of the topics that are in its long-term programme of work;<sup>153</sup>

8. *Encourages* the International Law Commission to take into account the capacity and views of Member States when including topics in its current programme of work;

9. *Takes note* of paragraphs 368 to 370 of the report of the International Law Commission and notes, in particular, the inclusion of the topics “Universal criminal jurisdiction” and “Sea-level rise in relation to international law” in the long-term programme of work of the Commission,<sup>154</sup> and in this regard calls upon the Commission to take into consideration the comments, concerns and observations expressed by Governments during the debate in the Sixth Committee;

10. *Also takes note* of the holding of the first part of the seventieth session of the International Law Commission at United Nations Headquarters, in New York, from 30 April to 1 June 2018, which coincided with the commemoration of the seventieth anniversary of the Commission, and of the second part of the session at the United Nations Office at Geneva, from 2 July to 10 August 2018;

11. *Further takes note* of paragraphs 331 to 362 of the report of the International Law Commission and commends the convening of the seventieth anniversary commemorative meetings in New York on 21 May 2018 and in Geneva on 5 and 6 July 2018, and also expresses its appreciation to the Member States, the academic institution and others, which have made financial contributions and contributions in kind to facilitate the commemoration of the seventieth anniversary of the Commission;

12. *Takes note* of paragraph 382 of the report of the International Law Commission, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to identify concrete options for support for the work of special rapporteurs, additional to those provided under General Assembly resolution [56/272](#) of 27 March 2002;

13. *Welcomes* the efforts of the International Law Commission to improve its methods of work,<sup>155</sup> and encourages the Commission to continue this practice;

14. *Invites* the International Law Commission to continue to take measures to enhance its efficiency and productivity and to consider making proposals to Member States to that end;

15. *Recalls* the importance of an in-depth analysis of State practice and the consideration of the diversity of legal systems of Member States to the work of the International Law Commission;

16. *Encourages* the International Law Commission to continue to take cost-saving measures at its future sessions, without prejudice to the efficiency and effectiveness of its work;

17. *Recalls* that the seat of the International Law Commission is at the United Nations Office at Geneva;

18. *Takes note* of paragraph 395 of the report of the International Law Commission, and decides that the next session of the Commission shall be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 29 April to 7 June and from 8 July to 9 August 2019;

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<sup>151</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/73/10)*, paras. 76 and 88.

<sup>152</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 363.

<sup>153</sup> The following topics are currently in the long-term programme of work of the International Law Commission: “Ownership and protection of wrecks beyond the limits of national maritime jurisdiction”, “Jurisdictional immunity of international organizations”, “Protection of personal data in transborder flow of information”, “Extraterritorial jurisdiction”, “The fair and equitable treatment standard in international investment law”, “Settlement of international disputes to which international organizations are parties”, “Evidence before international courts and tribunals”, “Universal criminal jurisdiction” and “Sea-level rise in relation to international law”.

<sup>154</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/73/10)*, para. 369.

<sup>155</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/66/10)*, paras. 370–388.

## VII. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Sixth Committee

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19. *Stresses* the desirability of further enhancing the dialogue between the International Law Commission, in particular the special rapporteurs, and the Sixth Committee, and in this context encourages, inter alia, the continued practice of informal consultations in the form of discussions between the members of the Sixth Committee and the members of the Commission throughout the year;

20. *Encourages* delegations, during the debate on the report of the International Law Commission, to continue to adhere as far as possible to the structured work programme agreed to by the Sixth Committee and to consider presenting concise and focused statements;

21. *Encourages* Member States to consider being represented at the level of legal adviser during the first week in which the report of the International Law Commission is discussed in the Sixth Committee (International Law Week) to enable high-level discussions on issues of international law;

22. *Underlines* in this regard the necessity to allow sufficient time for the consideration of the report of the International Law Commission in the Sixth Committee;

23. *Requests* the International Law Commission to continue to pay special attention to indicating in its annual report, for each topic, any specific issues on which expressions of views by Governments, either in the Sixth Committee or in written form, would be of particular interest in providing effective guidance for the Commission in its further work;

24. *Takes note* of paragraphs 396 to 399 of the report of the International Law Commission with regard to cooperation and interaction with other bodies, and encourages the Commission to continue the implementation of articles 16 (e), 25 and 26 of its statute in order to further strengthen cooperation between the Commission and other bodies concerned with international law, having in mind the usefulness of such cooperation;

25. *Notes* that consulting with national organizations and individual experts concerned with international law may assist Governments in considering whether to make comments and observations on drafts submitted by the International Law Commission and in formulating their comments and observations;

26. *Reaffirms* its previous decisions concerning the indispensable role of the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat in providing assistance to the International Law Commission, including in the preparation of memorandums and studies on topics on the agenda of the Commission, and takes note of the requests of the Commission to the Secretariat to reissue the memorandum on ways and means for making the evidence of customary international law more readily available<sup>156</sup> to reflect the text of the draft conclusions and commentaries on identification of customary international law adopted on second reading, and to prepare a memorandum providing information on treaties which may be of relevance to its future work on the topic “Succession of States in respect of State responsibility”, contained in paragraphs 364 and 365 of the report of the Commission;

27. *Also reaffirms* its previous decisions concerning the documentation and summary records of the International Law Commission;<sup>157</sup>

28. *Takes note* of paragraph 386 of the report of the International Law Commission, recalls the paramount importance of multilingualism as set forth in General Assembly resolutions [69/324](#) of 11 September 2015 and [71/328](#) of 11 September 2017 on multilingualism, underlines the importance of having the documents of the Commission published in due time in the six official languages of the United Nations, and to this end requests special rapporteurs to submit their reports within the time limits specified by the Secretariat;

29. *Stresses* the need to expedite the preparation of the summary records of the International Law Commission, and welcomes the continuation of the measures taken to streamline the processing of summary records during the sixty-fifth session of the Commission,<sup>158</sup> which have led to a more rational use of resources, and expresses its satisfaction that the summary records of the Commission, constituting *travaux préparatoires* in the progressive development and codification of international law, will not be subject to arbitrary length restrictions;

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<sup>156</sup> [A/CN.4/710](#).

<sup>157</sup> See resolutions [32/151](#), para. 10, and [37/111](#), para. 5, and all subsequent resolutions on the annual reports of the International Law Commission to the General Assembly; see also *Yearbook of the International Law Commission* 1982, vol. II (Part Two), paras. 267–269 and 271, as well as all subsequent annual reports of the International Law Commission.

<sup>158</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/68/10)*, para. 183.

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30. *Welcomes* the institutionalization of the practice of the Secretariat to include on the website of the International Law Commission the provisional summary records in English and French relating to the work of the Commission;

31. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the Secretariat in seeking to ensure the timely and efficient processing of the documents of the International Law Commission and the institutionalization of the experimental measures taken during the sixty-eighth session of the Commission to streamline the editing of those documents;

32. *Takes note* of paragraph 385 of the report of the International Law Commission, underlines the importance of the publications of the Codification Division to the work of the Commission, welcomes in particular the issuance of the ninth edition of *The Work of the International Law Commission* in French, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General continue to publish *The Work of the International Law Commission* in all six official languages at the beginning of each quinquennium, the *Reports of International Arbitral Awards* in English or French and the *Summaries of the Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the International Court of Justice* in all six official languages every five years;

33. *Also takes note* of paragraph 390 of the report of the International Law Commission, stresses the unique value of the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure its timely publication in all official languages;

34. *Expresses its appreciation* to Governments that have made voluntary contributions to the trust fund on the backlog relating to the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*, and encourages further contributions to the trust fund;

35. *Takes note* of paragraph 391 of the report of the International Law Commission, expresses its satisfaction with the remarkable progress achieved in the past few years in reducing the backlog of the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission* in all six languages, welcomes the efforts made by the Division of Conference Management of the United Nations Office at Geneva, especially its Editing Section, in effectively implementing relevant resolutions of the General Assembly calling for the reduction of the backlog, encourages that Division to provide continuous necessary support to the Editing Section in advancing the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*, and requests that updates on progress made in this respect be provided to the Commission on a regular basis;

36. *Welcomes* the continuous efforts of the Codification Division to maintain and improve the website relating to the work of the International Law Commission;

37. *Expresses the hope* that the International Law Seminar will continue to be held in connection with the sessions of the International Law Commission and that an increasing number of participants representing the principal legal systems of the world, including in particular those from developing countries, will be given the opportunity to attend the Seminar, as well as delegates to the Sixth Committee, and appeals to States to continue to make urgently needed voluntary contributions to the United Nations trust fund for the International Law Seminar;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the International Law Seminar with adequate services, including interpretation, as required, and encourages him to continue to consider ways to improve the structure and content of the Seminar;

39. *Underlines* the importance of the records and topical summary of the debate in the Sixth Committee for the deliberations of the International Law Commission, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to forward to the Commission, for its attention, the records of the debate on the report of the Commission at the seventy-third session of the General Assembly, together with such written statements as delegations may circulate in conjunction with their oral statements, and to prepare and distribute a topical summary of the debate, following established practice;

40. *Requests* the Secretariat to circulate to States, as soon as possible after the conclusion of the session of the International Law Commission, chapter II of its report containing a summary of the work of that session, chapter III containing the specific issues on which the views of Governments would be of particular interest to the Commission and the draft articles adopted on either first or second reading by the Commission;

41. *Also requests* the Secretariat to make the complete report of the International Law Commission available as soon as possible after the conclusion of the session of the Commission for the consideration of Member States with due anticipation and no later than the prescribed time limit for reports in the General Assembly;

## VII. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Sixth Committee

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42. *Encourages* the International Law Commission to continue to consider ways in which specific issues on which the views of Governments would be of particular interest to the Commission could be framed so as to help Governments to have a better appreciation of the issues on which responses are required;

43. *Recommends* that the debate on the report of the International Law Commission at the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly commence on 28 October 2019.

# Annex I

## Allocation of agenda items<sup>a</sup>

### Plenary meetings

1. Opening of the session by the President of the General Assembly.
  2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation.
  3. Credentials of representatives to the seventy-third session of the General Assembly:
    - (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
    - (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
  4. Election of the President of the General Assembly.
  6. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly.
  7. Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: reports of the General Committee.
  8. General debate.
- A. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences**
9. Report of the Economic and Social Council.
  10. Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin.
  11. Implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the political declarations on HIV/AIDS.
  12. Sport for development and peace.
  13. 2001–2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa.
  14. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields.
  15. Culture of peace.
  16. The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order.
  18. Macroeconomic policy questions:
    - (d) Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development.
  20. Sustainable development:
    - (d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind.
  22. Globalization and interdependence:
    - (b) International migration and development.
  30. Space as a driver of sustainable development.
- B. Maintenance of international peace and security**
31. Report of the Security Council.
  32. Report of the Peacebuilding Commission.

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<sup>a</sup> Organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization.

33. The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict.
34. Prevention of armed conflict:
  - (a) Prevention of armed conflict;
  - (b) Strengthening the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution.
35. Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development.
36. Complete withdrawal of foreign military forces from the territory of the Republic of Moldova.
37. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic.
38. The situation in the Middle East.
39. Question of Palestine.
40. The situation in Afghanistan.
41. The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan.
42. Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte.
43. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba.
44. The situation in Central America: progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development.
45. Question of Cyprus.
46. Armed aggression against the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
47. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).
48. The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti.
49. Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security.
50. Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait.
66. Peacebuilding and sustaining peace.
67. The situation in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine.

**C. Development of Africa**

68. New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support:
  - (a) New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support;
  - (b) Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa.

**D. Promotion of human rights**

69. Report of the Human Rights Council.
72. Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.
74. Promotion and protection of human rights:
  - (b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms.



**E. Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts**

- 75. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance:
  - (a) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;
  - (b) Assistance to the Palestinian people;
  - (c) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions.

**F. Promotion of justice and international law**

- 76. Report of the International Court of Justice.
- 77. Report of the International Criminal Court.
- 78. Oceans and the law of the sea:
  - (a) Oceans and the law of the sea;
  - (b) Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments.
- 88. Request for an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the separation of the Chagos Archipelago from Mauritius in 1965.
- 89. Request for an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice on the consequences of legal obligations of States under different sources of international law with respect to immunities of Heads of State and Government and other senior officials.

**G. Disarmament**

- 92. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency.
- 101. General and complete disarmament.

**I. Organizational, administrative and other matters**

- 112. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization.
- 113. Report of the Secretary-General on the Peacebuilding Fund.
- 114. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations.
- 115. Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs:
  - (a) Election of non-permanent members of the Security Council;
  - (b) Election of members of the Economic and Social Council.
- 116. Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections:
  - (a) Election of members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination;
  - (b) Election of members of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law;
  - (c) Election of members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission;
  - (d) Election of members of the Human Rights Council.
- 117. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments:
  - (e) Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences;
  - (f) Appointment of members of the Joint Inspection Unit;

- (g) Appointment of members of the Board of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns;
  - (h) Appointment of the judges of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal;
  - (i) Appointment of the judges of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal.
118. Admission of new Members to the United Nations.
119. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit.
120. The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.
121. Commemoration of the abolition of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade.
122. Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations.
123. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.
124. Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and other matters related to the Security Council.
125. Strengthening of the United Nations system:
- (a) Strengthening of the United Nations system;
  - (b) Central role of the United Nations system in global governance.
126. United Nations reform: measures and proposals.
127. Multilingualism.
128. Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations:
- (a) Cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union;
  - (b) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation;
  - (c) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization;
  - (d) Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States;
  - (e) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System;
  - (f) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States;
  - (g) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;
  - (h) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community;
  - (i) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization;
  - (j) Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie;
  - (k) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization;
  - (l) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe;
  - (m) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States;
  - (n) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons;
  - (o) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization;
  - (p) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum;

- (q) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations;
  - (r) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries;
  - (s) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization;
  - (t) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization;
  - (u) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative;
  - (v) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM;
  - (w) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States;
  - (x) Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization for Migration;
  - (y) Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);
  - (z) Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea.
129. Global health and foreign policy.
130. International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals.
131. Investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him.
132. Sexual exploitation and abuse: implementing a zero-tolerance policy.
133. Impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
137. Programme planning.
168. The responsibility to protect and the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity.

### **First Committee**

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

#### **G. Disarmament**

93. Reduction of military budgets.
94. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty.
95. Maintenance of international security – good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe.
96. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security.
97. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East.
98. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.
99. Prevention of an arms race in outer space:
  - (a) Prevention of an arms race in outer space;
  - (b) No first placement of weapons in outer space;
  - (c) Further practical measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space.
100. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament.

101. General and complete disarmament:

- (a) Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;
- (b) Nuclear disarmament;
- (c) Notification of nuclear tests;
- (d) Relationship between disarmament and development;
- (e) Regional disarmament;
- (f) Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;
- (g) Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;
- (h) Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control;
- (i) Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons;
- (j) Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures;
- (k) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;
- (l) Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol;
- (m) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction;
- (n) Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;
- (o) Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia;
- (p) Reducing nuclear danger;
- (q) The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;
- (r) Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments;
- (s) Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status;
- (t) Missiles;
- (u) Disarmament and non-proliferation education;
- (v) Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;
- (w) Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction;
- (x) Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context;
- (y) The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation;
- (z) Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;
- (aa) Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities;
- (bb) The Arms Trade Treaty;
- (cc) Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium;
- (dd) Preventing the acquisition by terrorists of radioactive sources;

- (ee) United action with renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons;
  - (ff) Preventing and combating illicit brokering activities;
  - (gg) Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control;
  - (hh) Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament;
  - (ii) Countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices;
  - (jj) Humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons;
  - (kk) Ethical imperatives for a nuclear-weapon-free world;
  - (ll) Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions;
  - (mm) Universal Declaration on the Achievement of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World;
  - (nn) Nuclear disarmament verification;
  - (oo) Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.
102. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly:
- (a) United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services;
  - (b) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons;
  - (c) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa;
  - (d) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;
  - (e) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;
  - (f) Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;
  - (g) United Nations Disarmament Information Programme;
  - (h) United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament.
103. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session:
- (a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;
  - (b) Report of the Disarmament Commission.
104. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East.
105. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects.
106. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region.
107. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.
108. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction.

**I. Organizational, administrative and other matters**

123. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.
137. Programme planning.

**Special Political and Decolonization Committee  
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5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

**B. Maintenance of international peace and security**

- 51. University for Peace.
- 52. Effects of atomic radiation.
- 53. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space.
- 54. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.
- 55. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories.
- 56. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects.
- 57. Comprehensive review of special political missions.
- 58. Questions relating to information.
- 59. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations.
- 60. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.
- 61. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.
- 62. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.
- 63. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

**I. Organizational, administrative and other matters**

- 123. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.
- 137. Programme planning.

**Second Committee**

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

**A. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences**

- 17. Information and communications technologies for sustainable development.
- 18. Macroeconomic policy questions:
  - (a) International trade and development;
  - (b) International financial system and development;
  - (c) External debt sustainability and development;
  - (d) Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development.
- 19. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development.



20. Sustainable development:
  - (a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;
  - (b) Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;
  - (c) Disaster risk reduction;
  - (d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind;
  - (e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;
  - (f) Convention on Biological Diversity;
  - (g) Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme;
  - (h) Harmony with Nature;
  - (i) Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all;
  - (j) Combating sand and dust storms;
  - (k) The role of the international community in the prevention of the radiation threat in Central Asia.
21. Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).
22. Globalization and interdependence:
  - (a) Globalization and interdependence;
  - (b) International migration and development.
23. Groups of countries in special situations:
  - (a) Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;
  - (b) Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries.
24. Eradication of poverty and other development issues:
  - (a) Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027);
  - (b) Industrial development cooperation.
25. Operational activities for development:
  - (a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system;
  - (b) South-South cooperation for development.
26. Agriculture development, food security and nutrition.
27. Towards global partnerships.

**B. Maintenance of international peace and security**

64. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources.

**I. Organizational, administrative and other matters**

- 123. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.
- 137. Programme planning.

**Third Committee**

- 5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

**A. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences**

- 28. Social development:
  - (a) Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;
  - (b) Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family;
  - (c) Literacy for life: shaping future agendas.
- 29. Advancement of women.

**B. Maintenance of international peace and security**

- 65. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions.

**D. Promotion of human rights**

- 69. Report of the Human Rights Council.
- 70. Promotion and protection of the rights of children:
  - (a) Promotion and protection of the rights of children;
  - (b) Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children.
- 71. Rights of indigenous peoples:
  - (a) Rights of indigenous peoples;
  - (b) Follow-up to the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.
- 72. Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance:
  - (a) Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;
  - (b) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.
- 73. Right of peoples to self-determination.
- 74. Promotion and protection of human rights:
  - (a) Implementation of human rights instruments;
  - (b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
  - (c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;
  - (d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

**H. Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations**

- 109. Crime prevention and criminal justice.
- 110. International drug control.

**I. Organizational, administrative and other matters**

- 123. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.
- 137. Programme planning.

**Fifth Committee**

- 5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

**I. Organizational, administrative and other matters**

- 117. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments:
  - (a) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;
  - (b) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions;
  - (c) Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee;
  - (d) Appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission:
    - (i) Appointment of members of the Commission;
    - (ii) Designation of the Chair of the Commission.
- 123. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.
- 134. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors:
  - (a) United Nations;
  - (b) United Nations peacekeeping operations;
  - (c) International Trade Centre;
  - (d) United Nations University;
  - (e) Capital master plan;
  - (f) United Nations Development Programme;
  - (g) United Nations Capital Development Fund;
  - (h) United Nations Children's Fund;
  - (i) United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;
  - (j) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;
  - (k) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;
  - (l) Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme;
  - (m) United Nations Population Fund;
  - (n) United Nations Human Settlements Programme;
  - (o) United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
  - (p) United Nations Office for Project Services;

- (q) United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women);
  - (r) International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991;
  - (s) International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals;
  - (t) United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund.
- 135. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.
  - 136. Programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019.
  - 137. Programme planning.
  - 138. Improving the financial situation of the United Nations.
  - 139. Pattern of conferences.
  - 140. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations.
  - 141. Human resources management.
  - 142. Joint Inspection Unit.
  - 143. United Nations common system.
  - 144. United Nations pension system.
  - 145. Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency.
  - 146. Report on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services.
  - 147. Administration of justice at the United Nations.
  - 148. Financing of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals.
  - 149. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations.
  - 150. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations.
  - 151. Financing of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei.
  - 152. Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic.
  - 153. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire.
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  - 155. Financing of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
  - 156. Financing of the United Nations Mission in East Timor.
  - 157. Financing of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti.
  - 158. Financing of the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti.
  - 159. Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo.
  - 160. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia.
  - 161. Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali.
  - 162. Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East:
    - (a) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force;
    - (b) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

- 163. Financing of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan.
- 164. Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara.
- 165. Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur.
- 166. Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution [1863 \(2009\)](#).

### **Sixth Committee**

- 5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

#### **F. Promotion of justice and international law**

- 79. Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission.
- 80. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fifty-first session.
- 81. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law.
- 82. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventieth session.
- 83. Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts.
- 84. Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives.
- 85. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization.
- 86. The rule of law at the national and international levels.
- 87. The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction.
- 90. Protection of persons in the event of disasters.
- 91. Strengthening and promoting the international treaty framework.

#### **H. Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations**

- 111. Measures to eliminate international terrorism.

#### **I. Organizational, administrative and other matters**

- 123. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.
- 137. Programme planning.
- 147. Administration of justice at the United Nations.
- 167. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country.
- 169. Observer status for the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States in the General Assembly.
- 170. Observer status for the Eurasian Economic Union in the General Assembly.
- 171. Observer status for the Community of Democracies in the General Assembly.
- 172. Observer status for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Secretariat in the General Assembly.
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- 176. Observer status for the European Public Law Organization in the General Assembly.
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