



# General Assembly

Distr.: Limited  
21 October 2021

Original: English

## Seventy-sixth session

### Second Committee

Agenda item 20 (I)

#### **Sustainable development: strengthening cooperation for integrated coastal zone management for achieving sustainable development**

##### **Morocco: draft resolution**

#### **Strengthening cooperation for integrated coastal zone management for achieving sustainable development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,<sup>1</sup> Agenda 21,<sup>2</sup> the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,<sup>3</sup> the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development<sup>4</sup> and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)<sup>5</sup> and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>6</sup> as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>7</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>8</sup>

<sup>1</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>2</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>3</sup> Resolution [S-19/2](#), annex.

<sup>4</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>5</sup> *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

<sup>6</sup> Resolution [66/288](#), annex.

<sup>7</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>8</sup> Resolution [63/239](#), annex.



*Reaffirming* the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,<sup>9</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 ecosystem approach advocated in the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>10</sup> which is described as a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way,

*Reaffirming* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want” and, inter alia, the commitments concerning the coastal and marine environment contained therein,

*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,

*Reaffirming* the Paris Agreement<sup>11</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>12</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Noting with concern* the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in the first part of the Sixth Assessment Report entitled *Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis*, which indicate that global warming of 1.5°C and 2°C will be exceeded during the twenty-first century unless deep reductions in greenhouse gas emissions occur in the coming decades,

*Recalling* the importance of strengthening the sustainable management and protection of the marine and coastal ecosystems, of restoring, where necessary, the resilience of coastal ecosystems to avoid adverse impacts and of achieving healthy and productive oceans,

*Recalling also* the commitments contained in Agenda 21, including those related to the integrated management and sustainable development of coastal areas while

<sup>9</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>11</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>12</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

noting that integrated coastal management under national jurisdiction has been widely recognized since then, which offers the opportunity to strengthen international cooperation in this field,

*Stressing* the importance of the priorities outlined in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>13</sup> in particular with regard to building resilience and reducing disaster risk in coastal management,

*Noting* that coastal hazards preparedness, responses and recovery are important components of integrated coastal zone management,

*Recognizing* the work on integrated coastal zone management conducted by the United Nations Environment Programme and the regional seas conventions and action plans,

*Recalling* resolutions related to integrated coastal zone management adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, including resolution 2/10 on oceans and seas<sup>14</sup> and resolution 4/11 on the protection of the marine environment from land-based activities,<sup>15</sup>

*Noting* that area-based management approaches, including integrated coastal zone management, are used to deliver a range of policies that align with the Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets and that can include societal engagement, conservation, sustainable management of natural resources, food security and climate change adaptation,

*Recognizing* the contribution of the integrated coastal zone management approach in the promotion of sustainable development in various areas, including sustainable tourism,

*Recognizing also* that integrated coastal zone management can contribute to poverty eradication and to preserving coastal natural capital, enhancing cultural heritage and supporting the transition to the blue and green economy as a lever for the development of coastal areas,

*[Placeholder of cross-cutting para. on COVID-19]*

*Noting with great concern* the threat to human health, safety and well-being caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, as well as the severe disruption to societies and economies and the devastating impact on lives and livelihoods, and that the poorest and most vulnerable are the hardest hit by the pandemic, reaffirming the ambition to get back on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by designing and implementing sustainable and inclusive recovery strategies to accelerate progress towards the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to help to reduce the risk of future shocks, and recognizing that equitable, affordable access for all to safe, quality, efficacious, effective, accessible and affordable COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics is an essential part of a global response based on unity, solidarity and renewed multilateral cooperation,

*Noting* that coastal and marine resources contribute significantly to the economy and that maintaining a high-quality coastal and marine environment provides ecosystem functions and services in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and, in particular, Sustainable Development Goal 14,

<sup>13</sup> Resolution 69/283, annex II.

<sup>14</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/71/25)*, annex.

<sup>15</sup> UNEP/EA.4/Res.11.

*Noting also* various initiatives to address threats and problems in coastal and marine areas that originate from land-based activities and may have a negative impact on coastal and marine ecosystems, and in this regard emphasizing the importance of strengthening and adapting management tools by area, such as marine protected areas, marine spatial planning, integrated land use planning or integrated coastal zone management, in order to prevent or mitigate the negative and cumulative impacts of socioeconomic activities and to protect coastal resources from damage caused by land-based activities,

*Recognizing* the efforts and actions that Member States, together with other stakeholders, are undertaking to address the threats and problems for coastal and marine areas originating from land-based activities,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary General;<sup>16</sup>
2. *Emphasizes* that the use and implementation of the integrated coastal zone management approach and other area-based management approaches can contribute significantly towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets;<sup>17</sup>
3. *Also emphasizes* that coastal areas are an essential ecological and economic resource and that their management and planning from a sustainable development perspective need an integrated management approach, bearing in mind that international cooperation for the implementation of marine spatial planning can contribute to the maintenance of ecosystem integrity and can improve the economic profitability of marine management and use of resources;
4. *Calls upon* Member States and other actors at the local, national, regional and international levels, including in the private sector, civil society and academia, to address the problem of marine litter and microplastics, which are considered to be among the main issues that hinder coastal management, encourages all stakeholders, in their response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, to prioritize a whole-life-cycle approach and resource efficiency, building on existing initiatives and instruments, and supported by and grounded in science, international cooperation and multi-stakeholder engagement, and in this regard invites Member States to reduce the level of pollution of coastal areas, whatever the origin, and to protect marine ecosystems and coastal areas in the long term;
5. *Underlines* that integrated coastal zone management is a dynamic process for the sustainable management and use of coastal zones, taking into account at the same time the fragility of coastal ecosystems and landscapes, the diversity of activities and uses, their interactions, the maritime orientation of certain activities and uses and their impact on both the marine and land parts;
6. *Encourages* Member States to consider the definition and implementation of an integrated coastal zone management approach, including through appropriate national planning tools and an ecosystem approach that integrates land, sea and watershed areas, and to develop partnerships allowing the exchange of good practices in integrated coastal zone management, marine spatial planning and the implementation of circular economy approaches;
7. *Also encourages* Member States to consider strengthening, or where applicable establishing, coordinating mechanisms for the integrated management and sustainable development of coastal and marine areas and their resources, at the local, national and regional levels;

<sup>16</sup> [A/76/354](#).

<sup>17</sup> See resolution [70/1](#).

8. *Further encourages* Member States to take concrete measures to integrate poverty eradication, quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, sustainable transport, science, technology and innovation into integrated coastal zone management, and emphasizes the importance of committing to the reduction of the pollution level in coastal areas, whatever the origin, and to the protection of marine ecosystems and coastal areas in the long term;

9. *Stresses* the importance of policies and plans for disaster risk reduction to build resilience and reduce the impacts and costs of natural disasters, also stresses the importance of biodiversity preservation and nature-based solutions, and encourages Member States to incorporate these elements as part of their approach to integrated coastal zone management;

10. *Also stresses* the importance of promoting coordination at the national and local levels with regard to coastal areas, with the aim of ensuring policy coherence, as well as the effectiveness of coastal management measures, while ensuring the participation of all relevant stakeholders, including people in vulnerable situations;

11. *Emphasizes* the importance of partnerships, of bringing together multi-stakeholder actors to enable the integration of different interests and knowledge into planning processes or strategies and helping to ensure that area-based management approach design is based on the best available science;

12. *Also emphasizes* that international and regional cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, and through capacity-building and technical support for developing countries and public private partnerships, are an important factor in promoting the integrated coastal zone management approach by, inter alia, promoting peer learning and cooperation, developing the necessary coastal systematic observation, research and information management systems and developing technologies, the science policy interface and technological capacities, as well as building effective linkages among global, regional, subregional and national processes, as appropriate, to advance the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

13. *Calls upon* the United Nations Environment Programme and other relevant United Nations entities, within their mandates and existing resources, to support the efforts of Member States in promoting and implementing the integrated coastal zone management approach, as well as in mobilizing partnerships and initiatives at the local, national and regional levels;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session an action-oriented report on the implementation of the present resolution, within existing resources, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, a sub-item entitled “Strengthening cooperation for integrated coastal zone management for achieving sustainable development”.