



General Assembly

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Human Rights Council

Twenty-seventh session

Agenda item 10

Technical assistance and capacity-building

Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council

27/26

National policies and human rights

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Guided also by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations,

Recalling all relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

Recalling also Human Rights Council resolution 23/19 of 23 June 2013 on national policies and human rights,

Recalling further that States emphasized in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and the 2005 World Summit Outcome¹ that they bear the responsibility, in conformity with the Charter, to develop and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, 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,

Bearing in mind that States should integrate their obligations under international human rights law into their national legislation in order to ensure that State action at the national level is effectively directed towards the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Noting that State action aimed at the promotion, protection and full realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms at the national level is most effective when fully integrated into national policies based on a human rights perspective,

¹ General Assembly resolution 60/1.



Reaffirming that all human rights are inalienable, universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that, therefore, national policies aimed at their promotion and protection will also have a mutually reinforcing effect on their realization,

Recognizing that each State has the right to choose the framework that is best suited to its particular needs at the national level,

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation to support States in the process of integrating their obligations and commitments under international human rights law into national legislation, and drawing up and carrying out national policies aimed at the full realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recognizing the important and constructive role that national human rights institutions and civil society can play in the process of drawing up and assessing the impact of national policies aimed at the promotion, protection and full realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Bearing in mind that technical cooperation offered by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, upon request of and in close cooperation with States, with the aim of integrating human rights into national policies and programmes can be a useful vehicle to support States' compliance with their human rights obligations, as well as their follow-up to recommendations made by the United Nations human rights mechanisms,

Affirming that the participation of members of all sectors of society in debating and developing policies and programmes affecting the population is critical for the success of such processes,

Recognizing that public policies planned and formulated through participatory approaches are key for promoting respect for, and safeguarding of, the realization of human rights,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on technical assistance and capacity-building options for integrating human rights into national policies;²

2. *Acknowledges* the efforts made by the Office of the High Commissioner, in both technical assistance and capacity-building, upon request and in close cooperation with States, to align laws, policies, institutions and practices with their human rights obligations and commitments, to implement accepted universal periodic review recommendations and to follow up on recommendations made by other United Nations human rights mechanisms;

3. *Recommends* that States integrate into their national policies a human rights perspective aimed at the promotion, protection and full realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

4. *Decides* to convene, at its twenty-eighth session, a panel discussion on the issue of national policies and human rights, with a particular focus on the findings of the report,² identifying challenges, further developments and good practices in mainstreaming human rights in national policies and programmes;

² A/HRC/27/41.

5. *Requests* the High Commissioner to prepare a summary report on the discussions of the panel, and to present it to the Human Rights Council before its thirtieth session;

6. *Decides* to remain seized of this issue.

40th meeting
26 September 2014

[Adopted without a vote.]
