United Nations

Commission for Social Development

Report on the sixty-second session

(15 February 2023 and 5–14 February 2024)

Economic and Social Council

Official Records, 2024
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*Note*

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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|  *Summary* |
|  The sixty-second session of the Commission for Social Development was held from 5 to 14 February 2024. The Commission deliberated on issues pertaining to the session’s priority theme, “Fostering social development and social justice through social policies to accelerate progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve the overarching goal of poverty eradication”, and to the emerging issue of “The influence of digital transformation on inclusive growth and development: a path to realizing social justice”. It also commemorated the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family.  |
| Outcome of the Commission  During the session, the Commission adopted three resolutions by consensus on (a) fostering social development and social justice through social policies to accelerate progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve the overarching goal of poverty eradication; (b) social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development; and (c) promoting care and support systems for social development. It also decided by consensus that the priority theme for its sixty-third session would be “Strengthening solidarity, social inclusion and social cohesion to accelerate the delivery of the commitments of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development as well as the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. |
| Summary of general discussions The Commission expressed appreciation for the Secretary-General’s reports and asserted support for the suggested recommendations. While reaffirming its commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, the Commission conveyed concerns about insufficient progress on implementation, in particular with respect to eradicating poverty and reducing inequalities. The Commission highlighted the multiple crises, including the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, climate change, economic instability and food insecurity, that continued to slow social progress and overall development. These challenges were acutely felt in the light of ongoing demographic changes, as well as in the light of the green and digital transformations. |
|  To build more inclusive and just societies, the Commission emphasized the importance of strengthening policies for eradicating poverty, hunger and malnutrition, ensuring food security and promoting access to quality and affordable health-care services, education, social protection and housing. Promoting access to decent work, combating unemployment and providing skills training and lifelong learning opportunities were also stressed as key measures for eradicating poverty and achieving inclusive economic growth. To ensure social justice, the Commission highlighted the need for social policies to fully integrate the needs of women, children, persons with disabilities, older persons, young people and other population groups in vulnerable situations. |
|  Most representatives underscored that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls must be an integral part of social policies to achieve an inclusive and just society. Several representatives stressed the centrality of respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as preserving the transparency and accountability of State institutions, promoting social dialogue and ensuring equal opportunities for all. While pointing to the devastating impacts of armed conflicts, foreign occupation and terrorism, several representatives reminded the Commission that peace and security were preconditions for sustainable development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. In this respect, some representatives called for an end to the conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza, noting their detrimental consequences for the well-being of those affected, both directly and indirectly. |
|  Several representatives from developing countries emphasized how the debt crisis and other financing challenges negatively impacted their prospects for mobilizing sufficient resources to implement effective social policies, eradicate poverty and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. They urged wealthier Member States to meet the 0.7 per cent target for official development assistance, reform the international financial architecture, promote debt restructuring and relief and review existing austerity measures. Some representatives also cited unilateral coercive measures as being harmful to the capacity of affected Governments to implement social policies and programmes. |
|  In the light of the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, many representatives acknowledged the importance of social policies to promote the well-being of families, especially those that promote social protection and parental leave and foster better work-family balance for employees with family responsibilities. With respect to promoting gender equality and reducing the disproportionate burden of unpaid care work on women, several representatives highlighted the need to develop systems that harnessed the economic potential of care work. Some representatives mentioned the importance of supporting families in their diversity, including single-parent and multigenerational families, while some emphasized the role of families as the fundamental unit of society. |
|  Most representatives recognized the opportunities and challenges of digital transformation and stressed the need to support workers in transitioning to new jobs and upgrading their skills, while also promoting opportunities for lifelong learning and strengthening social protection systems. Many proposals for inclusive socioeconomic policies were put forward, and several representatives highlighted the centrality of closing digital divides through technology transfers and technical assistance. |
|  Several representatives elaborated on the importance of enhanced multi‑stakeholder and whole-of-society approaches to social policies and also stressed the need for stronger multilateral cooperation. In this respect, the Summit of the Future in 2024 and the world social summit, to be held in 2025 under the title “Second World Summit for Social Development”, were mentioned by several representatives as opportunities for strengthening international cooperation and building a new consensus to tackle inequalities and promote social justice. |
| Summary of panel discussions The session convened six panel discussions. The high-level panel on the priority theme elaborated on how social policies could become more effective in achieving inclusive, resilient and equitable societies. It highlighted the enormous gap in the financing needed to meet the Sustainable Development Goals and warned that a business-as-usual approach would risk widening existing gaps and leave more people behind. The panel also stressed the importance of embracing a rights-based approach to social development and of supporting a just transition, as well as the need to better link social and environmental priorities for the benefit of future generations.  |
|  The Ministerial forum stressed the importance of breaking intergenerational cycles of poverty. It emphasized the importance of early intervention and identification of children living in poverty and of ensuring that they are provided with quality education, health care, social protection and other basic services. To ensure that priorities are addressed, local communities should be involved. The forum concluded that domestic resource mobilization was key to ensuring the availability of funds and thus advocated for the modernization of tax systems, while also acknowledging that international cooperation and fulfilment of official development assistance commitments remained essential for implementing the 2030 Agenda. |
|  The high-level panel on the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family discussed how megatrends such as urbanization, international migration, demographic shifts and technological change impacted the lives of families. It recommended broadening the coverage of health-care and social protection systems, strengthening work-family balance policies and ensuring the provision of affordable care for children and older persons, while also stressing the need for better-planned cities and greater opportunities for education and work, along with affordable housing and safe environments. |
|  The emerging issues panel deliberated on how digital transformation could provide a pathway to social justice, highlighting the potential contribution of digital technologies to inclusive social development through new job opportunities and financial inclusion. Panellists recognized the challenges associated with a changing labour market and the need to support workers in these transitions through strengthened social protection and lifelong learning. They emphasized how digital technologies could increase the effectiveness of social protection and health-care systems and concluded with a call for improved governance and international cooperation around digital transformation. |
|  In the interactive dialogue with senior officials of the United Nations system, participants focused on how to improve the mainstreaming of social considerations in development frameworks. Panellists noted that social progress was strongly influenced by policy choices at the national level and by priorities established in national development strategies, as well as by the actions of international development agencies. It concluded that most countries and actors were not investing enough in policies crucial for advancing social justice and highlighted the need for better employment opportunities and broader social protection coverage. |
|  At the multi-stakeholder forum, representatives from trade unions, employers’ organizations, cooperatives and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) shared good practices and innovative solutions for promoting social development and social justice for all. The panel emphasized the need for social dialogue, a new social contract and respect for cultural identities and heritages. It stressed that eradicating homelessness and poverty would be achievable only through strengthened multi‑stakeholder cooperation and broad partnerships. |
| Attendance, coverage and other events A total of 22 ministers and vice-ministers participated in the Commission’s deliberations. More than 300 civil society organizations also attended. In the margins of the session, 50 side events and a civil society forum were convened. The session was well covered on social media, with more than 2,000 mentions, 7,000 engagements and over 130 published articles. The opening segment featured the following speakers: Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations and Chair of the sixty-second session, Ruchira Kamboj; President of the General Assembly, Dennis Francis; Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council, Robert Rae; Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Li Junhua; Chair of the NGO Committee on Social Development, Jean Quinn; and a representative from the Global Youth Health Caucus of the children and youth major group, Mwiza Muwowo of Copper Rose Zambia. The President of the Economic and Social Council, Paula Narváez Ojeda, closed the session. |
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[29 February 2024]

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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

 A. Draft resolutions for adoption by the Council

1. The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I

Promoting care and support systems for social development

 *The Economic and Social Council*,

 *Recalling* General Assembly resolution [70/1](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/70/1) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which the Assembly adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets and affirmed its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030 with a view to leaving no one behind and reaching the furthest behind first, 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 sustainable development,

 *Noting* General Assembly resolution [69/313](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/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,

 *Reaffirming* that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[[1]](#footnote-1) and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session[[2]](#footnote-2) constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels, encouraging the continued global dialogue on social development issues, and reaffirming also all previous resolutions on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development,

 *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,

 *Recalling* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Goals and targets, including target 5.4, which recognizes and values unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate,

 *Taking note* of all relevant international human rights instruments and relevant international labour conventions, which contain provisions relevant to persons providing and receiving care and support,

 *Recalling* the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[[3]](#footnote-3) and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[[4]](#footnote-4) and the outcome documents of their review conferences, as well as the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing,[[5]](#footnote-5) and recognizing that the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Sustainable Development Goals and targets,

 *Taking note* of General Assembly resolution [77/317](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/77/317) of 24 July 2023 and Human Rights Council resolution [54/6](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/54/6) of 11 October 2023,[[6]](#footnote-6)

 *Taking note also* of international, regional and national initiatives as well as multi-stakeholder initiatives related to care and support systems, including those that aim to guarantee the recognition, reduction and redistribution of unpaid care work and the reward and representation of care and domestic workers, to increase commitments toward economic and social justice and rights for all, including by promoting the rights of women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons,

 *Recognizing* that the provision of care and support comprises, inter alia, meeting the physical, psychological and emotional needs of care receivers, which contributes to the enjoyment of their rights, and respect for their dignity, agency and well-being,

 *Recognizing also* that support is an integral part of being able to live independently and being included in the community, and recognizing further the importance of increasing the resilience of older persons, persons with disabilities and persons living with mental health conditions by ensuring legal and social protection, adopting employment measures, providing better care and support services and promoting long-term care and support at home and in the community, facilitating access to and sharing of accessible and assistive technologies, especially new and emerging ones, including information and communications systems, mobility aids, assistive devices and other assistive technologies with a view to guaranteeing their empowerment, autonomy and independence,

 *Acknowledging* 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 best interests of the child, as well as the autonomy, security and well-being of 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 among generations, as well as in promoting and protecting the human rights of all family members,

 *Recognizing* that women and girls, including adolescent girls, undertake a disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work, which further exacerbates gender inequality by limiting women’s agency to decide how to spend their time and their ability to participate in decision-making processes and occupy leadership positions, and that it poses significant constraints on women’s and girls’ education and training and women’s economic opportunities, and that this kind of entrenched inequality and social exclusion is an obstacle to broad-based and sustained growth, and recognizing further the need to adopt a comprehensive and intergenerational approach in the design and implementation of care and support policies, including by accounting for it in national statistics, and economic and social policymaking,

 *Recognizing also* that women often make up a large portion of the workforce in self-employment and part-time or temporary work and continue to bear most of the responsibility for unpaid care and support work, having, as a result, lower rates of labour force participation and shorter formal working careers, which limits their ability to contribute to social security schemes, and contributes to the feminization of poverty, and noting in this regard that mechanisms to build social protection which value and account for periods of unpaid work over their life course, including care and support systems, can help to address this situation,

 *Stressing* the need to recognize and value paid care work and care workers as essential workers and the need to adopt measures that combat gender stereotypes related to care and support, as well as those related to, inter alia, race, disability, ethnicity, age and migratory status, to reduce occupational segregation for care work, while recognizing the need to improve working conditions and reduce precarious employment in paid care work,

 *Acknowledging* the accelerated global demographic trend of ageing of the population, which will result in an increased need for health-care and social services and require more care work and support, and stressing the need to promote and strengthen the estimation of the caregiving contribution of older persons to care and support systems, including recognition of unpaid care for family members, in particular by older women, and to ensure that national statistics in this regard inform policymaking,

 *Noting* that those providing domestic care and support constitute a significant proportion of the workforce and that, globally, care work is carried out in most cases by women, many of whom are migrants or persons who are in particularly vulnerable situations, exposing them to discrimination in respect of conditions of employment and of work,

 *Acknowledging* that States should render appropriate assistance to parents and legal guardians in the performance of their child-rearing responsibilities and should ensure the development of institutions, facilities and services for the care of children, and noting that children’s development depends on the existence of, and access to, a set of adequate family-oriented, community and State care policies and adequate living conditions, including basic infrastructure and the provision of sufficient, safe and nutritious food, to support healthy growth and development, and access to quality education, including early childhood education, as well as stimulating environments and social interactions with attentive caregivers,

 *Recognizing* the need to adopt measures to reduce, redistribute and value unpaid care and domestic work by promoting the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men within the household and by prioritizing, inter alia, sustainable infrastructure, social protection policies and accessible, affordable and quality social services, including care and support services, child care and maternity, paternity or parental leave, as well as the need for adequate maternity leave and protection for working mothers, and further recognizing that paid paternity leave and parental leave, especially for fathers, are necessary care policies to support father-child bonding and greater sharing of responsibilities between parents, and that these should be complemented by targeted adequate working arrangements,

 *Mindful* of the need to create robust, resilient and gender-responsive, disability-inclusive and age-sensitive care and support systems with full respect for human rights, with a view to recognizing, valuing, reducing and redistributing unpaid care, domestic work and support,

 *Acknowledging* the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the importance of respecting and protecting their traditional and ancestral knowledge, in accordance with each corresponding social and cultural system and cultural values, including in the context of community care and support systems,

 *Recognizing* that civil society organizations, in particular those working on the issue of care and support, including workers’ and employers’ organizations, women’s and community-based organizations, youth-led organizations, feminist groups, faith-based organizations and other relevant stakeholders and networks, are contributing to putting the need for care and support of people at the centre of relevant national policies,

 1. *Urges* States to ensure the creation of enabling environments for promoting care and support systems for social development and implement all measures necessary to ensure the well-being and rights of care recipients and caregivers, to recognize and redistribute care work among individuals, as well as families, communities, the private sector and States, and to contribute to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

 2. *Stresses* that Member States, which bear the main responsibility for social integration and social inclusion, should foster a care society in which all receive the care they need, promoting their rights and well-being, based on the principles of equality and non-discrimination, access to basic social services and promotion of the active participation of every member of society as well as a collective responsibility, involving individuals, families, communities, States and the private sector, including through poverty eradication measures, labour policies, public services and gender-sensitive social protection programmes;

3. *Also stresses* the crucial role of Governments in designing and implementing care policies, as well as the need for social dialogue, representation and participation of caregivers and of care receivers in such policy design, to ensure that such policies are empowering and respect their dignity, rights, agency and well-being;

 4. *Recognizes* that both paid and unpaid care and support work benefits societies, economies, families and individuals alike, considering that investing in the provision of care and support services would increase the well-being of both care recipients and paid and unpaid caregivers, generate new decent jobs in the care sector and support economic prosperity;

 5. *Urges* States to consider investment in care and support and promote legal systems or frameworks in care and support policies and infrastructure, and promote national legislation and capacity-building to ensure universal access to affordable and quality services for all, including childcare, in the health and support sector for persons with disabilities and older persons, which is necessary to address care needs for persons throughout their life course, and to ensure universal access to paid maternity, paternity and parental leave and social protection for all workers, including for both informal workers and those in non-standard forms of employment;

6. *Stresses* that social inclusion policies, including care policies, should promote gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, considering that those providing domestic care and support constitute a significant proportion of the workforce and that care work is carried out mainly by women, and therefore calls for equal access to opportunities and social protection for all, in particular for those in vulnerable situations, including women and girls who experience violence and discrimination, considering that the empowerment of all women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[[7]](#footnote-7)

7. *Encourages* Member States to consider the multiplier effects of the care economy in terms of increasing labour participation, facilitating the transition from informal to formal work and decent working conditions in the care sector, investing in social infrastructure and strengthening social protection, as well as the returns on the investments in care policies and systems;

8. *Stresses* the need to address the challenges in paid care work such as lower wages, poor working conditions, precarious employment and the increased risk of harassment, including sexual harassment inthe workplace;

9. *Encourages* Member States to invest in family-oriented policies and programmes that enhance strong intergenerational interactions, such as intergenerational living arrangements, parenting education, including for family caregivers, and support for grandparents, including grandparents who are primary caregivers, in an effort to promote inclusive urbanization, active and healthy ageing, intergenerational solidarity and social cohesion;

10. *Also encourages* Member States to promote and strengthen the estimation of the caregiving contribution in national statistics, including recognition of unpaid care for family members, and to support studies and research for more informed, evidence-based policymaking decisions, ensuring that investments in care and support systems are enshrined in national plans;

11. *Decides* to request the President of the Economic and Social Council at its 2024 session to organize, within existing resources, an informal intergovernmental interactive dialogue, in an accessible format, with the objective of evaluating experiences, good practices and main challenges regarding the promotion of and investment in care and support systems and their contribution to individuals, families, societies and economies, considering the role of caregivers and receivers;

12. *Also decides* that the Commission for Social Development will consider the issue of care and support systems at its sixty-fourth session.

Draft resolution II

Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development

 *The Economic and Social Council*,

 *Recalling* the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995,[[8]](#footnote-8) and of 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,[[9]](#footnote-9) the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[[10]](#footnote-10) and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[[11]](#footnote-11) and reaffirming the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa’s Development of 16 September 2002,[[12]](#footnote-12)

 *Recognizing* the commitments made at the 2005 World Summit with regard to meeting the special needs of Africa[[13]](#footnote-13) and reaffirmed in the political declaration on Africa’s development needs adopted at the high-level meeting held at United Nations Headquarters on 22 September 2008,[[14]](#footnote-14) and noting the relevant decisions of African Union summits related to the New Partnership for Africa’s Development,[[15]](#footnote-15)

 *Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution [70/1](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/70/1) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which the Assembly adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets and affirmed 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* General Assembly resolution [69/313](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/69/313) of 27 July 2015, containing 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,

 *Reaffirming further* the determination to mobilize the means required to implement the 2030 Agenda through a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, based on a spirit of strengthened global solidarity, focused in particular on the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable and with the participation of all countries, all stakeholders and all people,

 *Reaffirming* Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-fourth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa on 30 and 31 January 2015, and the first 10-year implementation plan (2014–2023) of Agenda 2063, in which flagship projects, priority areas and policy measures to support the implementation of the continental development framework were outlined and form the strategic framework for Africa’s inclusive growth and sustainable development and optimization of the use of the continent’s resources for the benefit of all its people,

 *Recalling* the African Common Position on Good Practices in Family Policy Development and Implementation for the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family (2014) and the renewed Continental Plan of Action on the African Decade of Persons with Disabilities (2010–2019), which were endorsed by the Heads of State and Government of the African Union in January 2013, and noting the adoption of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa in January 2016,

 *Acknowledging* the importance of supporting Agenda 2063, including its programme of the New Partnership, which is integral to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieving an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the international arena, and underscoring in this regard the importance of a coherent and coordinated implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda,

 *Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution [71/254](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/71/254) of 23 December 2016, entitled “Framework for a Renewed United Nations-African Union Partnership on Africa’s Integration and Development Agenda 2017–2027”, and welcoming in this regard the signing on 27 January 2018 of the African Union-United Nations Framework for the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to promote the integrated and coordinated implementation and monitoring of and reporting on both Agendas through joint activities and programmes,

 *Acknowledging* that the attainment of the seven aspirations of Agenda 2063 is critical to ensuring a high standard of living, quality of life and well-being for all citizens of Africa through income security, jobs and decent work, poverty and hunger eradication, inequality reduction, social security and protection floors, particularly for persons with disabilities, modern, affordable and liveable habitats and quality basic services, healthy and nourished citizens with access to health care, environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient economies and communities, full gender equality in all spheres of life and engaged and empowered youth and children,

 *Recalling* the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa adopted by the African Union, which calls for the creation of an enabling environment for adequate investments and the adoption of the sector reforms aimed at promoting economic and social development and reducing poverty on the continent through the implementation of integrated regional infrastructure networks,

 *Recalling also* the adoption by the African Union Executive Council in 2019 of several policy frameworks following the recommendations of the third ordinary session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Social Development, Labour and Employment, including the African Union Social Agenda 2063, the African Union Commission-International Labour Organization Joint Programme on Decent Work for the Transformation of the Informal Economy (2020–2024), the Ten-Year Action Plan on Eradication of Child Labour, Forced Labour, Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery in Africa (2020–2030), five-year strategies for the African Union campaigns to end child marriage and female genital mutilation, including a clear accountability framework, the African Union Disability Strategic Framework, and the draft Protocol on the Rights of Citizens to Social Protection and Social Security,

 *Noting with concern* the continued high prevalence of child, early and forced marriage, as well as violence and other harmful practices against children, including female genital mutilation, and reaffirming in this regard the Africa-wide campaign to end child marriage in Africa, launched at the fourth session of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Social Development, held in Addis Ababa from 26 to 30 May 2014, the Southern African Development Community Model Law on Eradicating Child Marriage and Protecting Children Already in Marriage and the endorsement by the Pan-African Parliament in August 2016 of a ban on female genital mutilation,

 *Recognizing* that many countries, particularly developing countries, still face considerable challenges and some have fallen further behind, emphasizing that the African Union and the regional economic communities have a critical role to play in the implementation of the New Partnership programme, and in this regard encouraging African countries, with the assistance of their development partners, to increase and coordinate effectively their support for enhancing the capacities of these institutions and to promote regional cooperation and social and economic integration in Africa, with a view to leaving no one behind,

 *Recognizing also* that investments in people, especially in their social protection, health-inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for all, are essential to enhancing productivity in all sectors, including agriculture, and thereby key to sustainable and equitable growth and poverty reduction, through increasing decent job creation and employability opportunities for all, especially for women and youth, improving food security and nutrition and building resilience,

 *Noting* the adoption of the political declaration of the General Assembly high-level meeting on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, held in New York on 20 September 2023,[[16]](#footnote-16) the political declaration of the high-level meeting on universal health coverage, held in New York on 21 September 2023,[[17]](#footnote-17) and the political declaration of the high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis, held in New York on 22 September 2023,[[18]](#footnote-18)

 *Recognizing* that gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, and the enjoyment of all human rights, will make a crucial contribution to progress across all of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets and that the systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is crucial, and in this regard recalling the adoption, at the second ordinary session of the Assembly of the African Union, of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, in Maputo on 11 July 2003, and the African Women’s Decade (2010–2020), commending the adoption of the African Union Strategy for Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment at the third session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment, held in Addis Ababa from 7 to 11 May 2018, and commending also the adoption of the New African Women’s Decade (2020–2030) as the Decade of Women’s Financial and Economic Inclusion at the thirty-third ordinary session of the Assembly of the African Union in Addis Ababa on 10 February 2020,

 *Recognizing also* that the lack of access to safe drinking water and proper sanitation contributes to slow progress in reducing Africa’s disease burden, particularly among the poorest populations, in both rural and urban areas, and conscious of the impact of the lack of sanitation on people’s health, poverty reduction efforts, economic and social development and the environment, in particular water resources,

 *Reiterating* the importance of strengthening policy and programmatic linkages between public health, pollution control, climate action, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem integrity, socioeconomic equity, inclusiveness and prosperity as one of the most effective strategies for Africa’s post-coronavirus disease (COVID-19) recovery,

 *Noting with appreciation* that 33 African countries are eligible or potentially eligible for debt relief under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and its advancement, the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative, including 30 countries that have received full debt relief after they reached their completion points and Somalia and the Sudan, which have made tangible progress towards establishing a strong track record of policy required to achieve this milestone, and urging the international financial community to accelerate the progress on debt relief and to continue to work together to lower to sustainable levels the external debt burdens of the most heavily indebted countries,

 *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, stressing the need to continue to assist developing countries, including African countries, in avoiding a build-up of unsustainable debt, taking into account the challenges posed by the global economic environment and risks for debt sustainability in a growing number of developing countries, and the consequent need for coordinated policy responses, 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, and recognizing with appreciation the steps taken by the Group of 20, in particular under the presidencies of Saudi Arabia, Italy and Indonesia, to further promote debt-related measures and the implementation of the Debt Service Suspension Initiative and the Common Framework for Debt Treatments beyond the Debt Service Suspension Initiative, and calling for all official bilateral creditors to implement these initiatives fully and in a transparent, timely and effective manner, while noting that more needs to be done, including to respond to the needs of countries not covered by current initiatives,

 *Bearing in mind* that African countries have primary responsibility for their own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, bearing in mind also the need for their development efforts to be supported by the international community and an enabling international economic environment, reiterating the need for the international community to implement all commitments regarding the economic and social development of Africa, and in this regard recalling the support given by the International Conferences on Financing for Development to the New Partnership,[[19]](#footnote-19)

 *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,

 *Concerned* that the enduring and compounding economic and social challenges occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic, and worsened by climate change, pose a serious challenge to Africa’s social development, and to a considerable extent, have reversed gains attained in the medium term and exacerbated pre-pandemic vulnerabilities, leaving more people behind and having a negative impact on the abilities of Governments to realize the 2030 Agenda and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, stressing that at this critical moment in the decade of action to deliver the Goals by 2030 the visions, principles and commitments made at the World Summit for Social Development remain valid and are central to addressing emerging global challenges, and recalling that social policies have a key role to play in addressing the immediate effects of crises,

 *Noting with great concern* the continuing multidimensional impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on African countries, including significant impacts on poverty, food security, unemployment, trade, disrupted supply chains, tourism and financial flows, as well as its social impacts, especially for the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including violence against women and girls, causing more challenges for African countries to achieve the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063, and recognizing the great efforts made by African countries in combating the COVID-19 pandemic to save lives and achieve a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery,

 *Determined* to address the COVID-19 pandemic through a global response based on unity, solidarity and renewed multilateral cooperation among States, peoples and generations that enhances the ability and resolve of States and other relevant stakeholders to fully implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

 1. *Welcomes* the progress made by African Governments in fulfilling their commitments in the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development to deepen democracy, human rights, good governance and sound economic management, and encourages them, with the participation of stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to intensify their efforts in this regard by developing and strengthening institutions for governance and creating an environment conducive to attracting foreign direct investment for the development of the region;

 2. *Also welcomes* the progress that has been achieved in implementing the African Peer Review Mechanism, in particular the voluntary adherence of 42 African countries to the Mechanism and the completion of the peer review process in 24 countries at present, and further welcomes the progress in implementing the national programmes of action resulting from those reviews, in this regard urges African States that have not yet done so to consider joining the Mechanism process and takes note of the decision on its institutional reform, and emphasizes African ownership of the process, and invites the international community to support the efforts of African countries, at their request, in implementing their respective national programmes of action;

 3. *Reaffirms* the importance of supporting Agenda 2063 of the African Union, as well as its first 10-year implementation plan, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme;

 4. *Takes note* of the development of the monitoring and evaluation framework for the first 10-year implementation plan of Agenda 2063 by Africa’s regional economic communities, the African Union Development Agency, the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank and the African Symposium on Statistical Development, as well as the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa, both of which have fostered convergence in the monitoring and evaluation of the first 10-year implementation plan and the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as a unified implementation and monitoring plan for Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and notes the incorporation of the first 10-year implementation plan into national planning frameworks by 42 countries;

 5. *Welcomes* the adoption of the governance structures of the African Union Development Agency, the implementing mechanism for the African Union Agenda 2063 development strategy, during the thirty-fifth ordinary session of the Executive Council of the African Union, held in Niamey on 4 and 5 July 2019, and whose mission is to foster the development of the continent through effective and integrated planning, coordination and implementation of Agenda 2063 with Member States, regional economic communities and pan-African institutions by leveraging partnerships and technical cooperation;

 6. *Also welcomes* the efforts made by African countries and regional and subregional organizations, including the African Union, to mainstream a gender perspective and the empowerment of all women and girls in the implementation of the New Partnership, including the implementation of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa;

 7. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the African Union Commission, which have resulted in the launch of national campaigns to end child, early and forced marriage in 24 countries, the adoption in 2017 of the African Common Position on the African Union Campaign to End Child Marriage in Africa and its extension for a five-year period from 2019 to 2023, the adoption by the Assembly of the African Union in February 2019 of the decision on galvanizing political commitment towards the elimination of female genital mutilation in Africa, in which it endorsed the African Union Initiative on Eliminating Female Genital Mutilation known as the Saleema Initiative, the adoption of national laws penalizing the practice in 23 African countries, and the operationalization in April 2022 of the African Union Accountability Framework on Eliminating Harmful Practices, but remains concerned about the increased risk of child, early and forced marriages in some countries in Africa exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic;

 8. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the launch, on 24 August 2018 in Addis Ababa, by the African Union Commission, in collaboration with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the International Telecommunication Union, of the African Girls Can Code Initiative (2018–2022), which is aimed at enhancing the mastering of information and communications technology for girls and women and, therefore, increasing their contribution to Africa’s innovation in that sector;

 9. *Encourages* African countries to strengthen and expand local and regional, and hard and soft infrastructure resilient to climate change, while recognizing the importance of quality infrastructure investment, through both foreign and domestic investment, and to continue to share best practices with a view to strengthening regional and continental integration, and in this regard recognizes the need for Africa’s development partners to align their efforts towards supporting the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa, a robust infrastructure portfolio which is now in its Priority Action Plan 2 phase and consists of 69 transport, energy, water and information and communications technology projects with an implementation horizon from 2021 to 2030, and to build a more robust system against natural disasters and extreme weather events;

 10. *Welcomes with appreciation* the entry into force on 30 May 2019 of the agreement on the African Continental Free Trade Area, which aims to boost intra‑African trade and continental integration, and which has gathered 54 signatures from member States, of which 47 have ratified the agreement, as of August 2023;

 11. *Recalls* the African Union Road Map on Harnessing the Demographic Dividend through Investments in Youth and the first five-year priority programme on employment, poverty eradication and inclusive development 2017, and welcomes the declaration by the African Union of the period from 2018 to 2027 as the African Decade for Technical, Professional and Entrepreneurial Training and Youth Employment, with a focus on the creation of decent jobs for youth and women, aimed at achieving more inclusive growth and sustainable poverty eradication;

 12. *Notes* the decision taken at the thirty-sixth ordinary session of the Assembly of the African Union to adopt “Acceleration of AfCFTA implementation” as the theme of the year 2023, which will play a critical role to complement other flagship projects of Agenda 2063 and the second 10-year implementation plan of the Agenda;

 13. *Urges* all countries that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[[20]](#footnote-20) encourages States parties to review its implementation, committing to making the Convention an effective instrument for deterring, detecting, preventing and countering corruption and bribery, prosecuting those involved in corrupt activities and recovering and returning stolen assets to their country of origin, as appropriate, encourages the international community to develop good practices on asset return, expresses support for the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations and the World Bank and other international initiatives that support the recovery of stolen assets, urges the updating and ratification of regional conventions against corruption, and strives to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for the transfer abroad of stolen assets and illicit financial flows;

 14. *Calls upon* African Governments to ratify the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa, to demonstrate the commitment of Member States to the dignity, empowerment and rights of persons with disabilities and older persons across the continent;

 15. *Notes* that health is a precondition, an indicator and an outcome of sustainable development and that, as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, robust efforts are needed to integrate additional health issues into a broad health and development agenda, and therefore takes note of the declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, at its thirty-second ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa on 10 and 11 February 2019, in which it committed to supporting and enhancing the reform of the health sector through adopting the Health in All Policies approach in order to achieve universal health coverage and curb the outbreak of major diseases in Africa and to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;

 16. *Welcomes* the adoption by Heads of States and Government of the Treaty for the Establishment of the African Medicines Agency during the thirty-second ordinary session of the Assembly of the African Union in February 2019, with the mission of strengthening regulatory systems to improve access to quality, safe and efficacious medicines, medical products and technologies that will provide effective protection of public health against future pandemics and infectious disease outbreaks in Africa, and which has gathered 29 signatures from member States, of which 26 have ratified the agreement, as of August 2023, and notes the other relevant initiatives such as the African Vaccine Acquisition Task Team initiative, accelerating post-COVID economic and social development;

 17. *Urges* African Governments to fast-track the implementation of the revised Africa Health Strategy for the period 2016–2030, which provides umbrella guidance for the development of the African Regional Nutrition Strategy, the Maputo Plan of Action 2016–2030 for the Operationalization of the Continental Policy Framework for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa and the Catalytic Framework to End AIDS and Tuberculosis and Eliminate Malaria in Africa by 2030, welcomes the Declaration on Universal Access to Immunization as a Cornerstone for Health and Development in Africa adopted by African Ministers of Health in 2016, and the 2017 declaration on committing to accelerate implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005),[[21]](#footnote-21) and also urges African Governments to achieve ambitious targets, a business case and strategic priorities to end the three diseases as a public health threat by 2030;

 18. *Stresses* the importance of improving maternal and child health, and in this regard recalls the declaration of the African Union summit on maternal, infant and child health and development, notes the decision of the African Union to restrengthen the Campaign on Accelerated Reduction of Maternal, Newborn and Child Mortality in Africa during the period 2021–2030, and urges the pursuit and implementation of commitments to improve maternal and child health;

 19. *Takes note* of the declaration of the special summit of the African Union on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, held in Abuja from 12 to 16 July 2013, on the progress made in implementing the Abuja actions towards the elimination of HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in Africa by 2030, also takes note of the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Ending Inequalities and Getting on Track to End AIDS by 2030, adopted on 8 June 2021 at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS,[[22]](#footnote-22) and reaffirms the resolve to provide assistance for prevention, treatment and care, with the aim of ensuring an Africa free of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, by addressing the needs of all, in particular those of women, children and young people, and the urgent need to significantly scale up efforts towards achieving the goal of universal access to comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention programmes, treatment, care and support in African countries, to accelerate and intensify efforts to expand access to affordable and quality medicines in Africa, including antiretroviral drugs, by encouraging pharmaceutical companies to make drugs available, and to ensure strengthened global partnership and increased bilateral and multilateral assistance, where possible on a grant basis, to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases in Africa through the strengthening of health systems;

 20. *Also takes note* of the decision of the African Union to extend the African Union Road Map on Shared Responsibility and Global Solidarity for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Response in Africa from 2016 to 2020 and to use the year 2021, which marked the twentieth anniversary of the Abuja Declaration on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases, as an opportunity to undertake a critical review of the situation and the consequences of these diseases in Africa, notes the revitalization of AIDS Watch Africa as an African high-level platform from which to advocate action, accountability and resource mobilization for the response to HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in Africa, and requests, as appropriate, and in line with relevant international obligations, development partners and the United Nations system to support the efforts of African countries and organizations to reach the main objectives put forward in the Road Map, including achieving diversified sustainable financing, strengthening regulatory harmonization and local pharmaceutical manufacturing capacity and enhancing leadership and governance of the responses;

 21. *Invites* development partners to continue to assist African countries in their efforts to strengthen national health systems, including by providing skilled health personnel, reliable health information and data, research infrastructure and laboratory capacity, and to expand surveillance systems in the health sector, including by mobilizing the means necessary to support Africa’s efforts to prevent, prepare for and respond to outbreaks and epidemics that account for over 100 major public health emergency events annually, and in this context reiterates its support for the Kampala Declaration and Agenda for Global Action and follow-up conferences to respond to the serious health workforce crisis in Africa;

 22. *Encourages* Member States to continue to provide international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries, particularly African countries, in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies, and notes the strategy of the African Ministers’ Council on Water for the period 2018–2030, launched for the achievement of the African Water Vision 2025, Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals;

 23. *Emphasizes* that progress in the implementation of the New Partnership depends also on a favourable national and international environment for Africa’s growth and development, including measures to promote a policy environment conducive to private sector development and entrepreneurship and to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

 24. *Also emphasizes* that democracy, respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society and effective participation by civil society, including non-governmental and community-based organizations, and the private sector are among the indispensable foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development;

 25. *Further emphasizes* that the poverty, inequality and social exclusion faced by most African countries require a comprehensive approach to the development and implementation of social and economic policies, inter alia, to reduce poverty, to promote economic activity, growth and sustainable development in order to ensure productive employment creation and decent work for all, to promote quality education, health and social protection and to enhance equality, social inclusion, political stability, democracy and good governance at all levels and the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

 26. *Emphasizes* that identifying and removing barriers to opportunity, as well as ensuring access to basic social protection and social services, are necessary to break the cycle of poverty, inequality and social exclusion;

 27. *Encourages* African countries to accelerate actions for eradicating extreme poverty, provide decent jobs and tackle the climate emergency, by investing in a sustainable, inclusive and just transition, including strategies to promote the social and solidarity economy, which can boost economic growth and create jobs, and strategies for adaptation and mitigation to climate change, modernizing smallholder agriculture, adding value to primary commodities and improving public and private institutions of economic and political governance;

 28. *Emphasizes* that economic development, including employment-intensive resource-based industrial development, with due regard to the sustainable management and use of natural resources, infrastructural development and structural transformation, in particular in the rural economy, based on pragmatic and targeted policies to enhance productive capacities in Africa that are consistent with national development priorities and international commitments, can generate employment and income for all African men and women, including the poor, and therefore be an engine for poverty eradication and for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

 29. *Encourages* African countries to continue to foster political stability, promote peace and security and strengthen the governance, policy and institutional environment in order to enhance the prospects for inclusive and sustainable development, and to develop an enabling environment for the private sector to contribute to sustainable economic transformation and the creation of productive employment and decent work for all;

 30. *Stresses* that the achievement of sustainable development and the eradication of poverty hinge on the ability and readiness of countries to effectively mobilize domestic resources, attract foreign direct investment, fulfil official development assistance commitments and use such assistance 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 have become a significant source of income and finance for receiving economies and their contribution to the achievement of sustainable development;

 31. *Notes* that preliminary data show that net bilateral official development assistance flows from member countries of the Development Assistance Committee to Africa stood at 34 billion United States dollars in 2022, representing a decrease of 7.4 per cent in real terms compared with 2021, including 29 billion dollars of net official development assistance to sub-Saharan Africa, which is a fall of 7.8 per cent in real terms compared to 2021, while in relative terms official development assistance remained far from the international commitment of 0.7 per cent of gross national income;

 32. *Reiterates* that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments remains crucial, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries, is encouraged by those few countries that have met or surpassed their commitment to 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance and the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries, and urges all others to step up efforts to increase their official development assistance and to make additional concrete efforts towards official development assistance targets;

 33. *Recognizes* that middle-income countries still face significant challenges in achieving sustainable development and that, in order to ensure that achievements made to date are sustained, efforts to address ongoing challenges should be strengthened through the exchange of experiences, improved coordination and better and focused support of the United Nations development system, the international financial institutions, regional organizations and other stakeholders, and therefore requests those stakeholders to ensure that the diverse and specific development needs of middle-income countries 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, while also acknowledging that official development assistance and other concessional finance is still important for a number of these countries and has a role to play for targeted results, taking into account the specific needs of these countries;

 34. *Also recognizes* that, while social development is primarily the responsibility of Governments, international cooperation and assistance are essential for the full achievement of that goal, and calls upon the international community to continue to support the resolution of challenges faced by developing countries, especially the least developed countries, including in Africa, to independently achieving sustainable development;

 35. *Further recognizes* the contribution made by Member States to the implementation of the New Partnership in the context of South-South cooperation, and encourages the international community, including the international financial institutions, to support the efforts of African countries, including through trilateral cooperation;

 36. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations and the African Union to realign the clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa to deal with the major themes of both Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and invites development partners, including the United Nations system, to continue to support the Mechanism in achieving its objectives, including through the allocation of the financing necessary to support the implementation of its activities;

 37. *Encourages* African countries to intensify their efforts to strengthen the capacity of subnational and national statistical systems in order to produce reliable and timely statistics and indicators for the monitoring of national development policies and strategies and of the implementation of commitments for the achievement of all Sustainable Development Goals at the local, national, regional and international levels, and in this regard urges donor countries and organizations, including the United Nations system, and the international and regional statistical communities to support African countries in strengthening statistical capacity in support of development;

 38. *Takes note* of the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa 2024, which aims to have an impact across critical sectors such as agriculture, energy, environment, health, infrastructure development, mining, security and water;

 39. *Underlines* the importance for African Governments to build the productive capacity of sustainable agriculture, as a top priority, in order to increase rural incomes and ensure access to food for net food buyers, and stresses that greater efforts should be made to promote and implement sustainable agriculture, increase the access of smallholder farmers, in particular women, to necessary agricultural resources, including productive assets, and improve access to infrastructure, information and markets, and that, furthermore, efforts should be made to promote rural-urban linkages through small and medium-sized enterprises that contribute to job growth and increase incomes along the agricultural value stream;

 40. *Urges* African Governments, within the framework of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, to expand investment financing to agriculture to at least 10 per cent of the annual budget of the national public sector while at the same time ensuring necessary action in policy and institutional reforms for enhanced performance of the agriculture industry and systems;

 41. *Recognizes* the need for Africa’s development partners that are supporting agriculture, food security and nutrition in Africa to align their efforts more specifically towards supporting the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, using the Programme’s investment plans for the alignment of external funding;

 42. *Welcomes* progress made in addressing issues such as food security through the adoption of a resolution on the development of a model law on food security and nutrition in Africa in October 2018 by the Pan-African Parliament, and the development of a technical cooperation project to incorporate indigenous crops into the African nutritious food basket for improved food security and nutrition, and notes the Africa Common Position on Food Systems, which provides a synthesis of African member States’ expressed views, perspectives and priorities as well as ambitions on key issues shaping Africa’s and the global food systems, informed by dialogues on the 2021 United Nations Food Systems Summit, including the African Regional Dialogue, held in Morocco on 13 July 2021, with the aim of accelerating the strengthening of food systems with a regional specificity that takes its substance in African agricultural and food systems, African diets, the living conditions of African populations and the ambitions of African societies;

 43. *Reaffirms* that among the objectives of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027), proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution [72/233](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/72/233) of 20 December 2017, are maintenance of the momentum generated by the implementation of the Second Decade and support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, for the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Sustainable Development Goals and their objective of leaving no one behind;

 44. *Urges* African countries to pay close attention to inclusive, equitable and sustainable growth capable of being employment-intensive, including through employment-intensive investment programmes, aimed at reducing inequalities, increasing productive employment, generating decent work for all, particularly those who are vulnerable, including women and young people, and improving real per capita incomes in both rural and urban areas;

 45. *Emphasizes* the need, in particular for African countries, to enhance capacity-building for sustainable development, and in this regard calls for the strengthening of technical and scientific cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, and reiterates the importance of adequate human resources development, including through training, the exchange of experience and expertise, knowledge transfer and technical assistance for capacity-building, which involves strengthening institutional capacity, including policy coherence, coordination and implementation, as well as planning, management and monitoring capacities;

 46. *Also emphasizes* the importance of accelerating strategies for closing the gender divide in access to education, health care, decent work, digital information and communications technologies, including the Internet, food and agricultural services and of increasing international cooperation to improve the quality of and access to education, including efforts to realize girls’ right to education, in particular for African countries, including through building and strengthening education-related infrastructure and increasing investment in education, and takes note of continental initiatives such as the African Union International Centre for Girls’ and Women’s Education in Africa, which presented its third strategic plan (2021–2025), entitled “Building resilience to foster African human capital through girls’ and women’s education for sustainable development”, which is aimed at achieving gender equality while recognizing the crucial role of boys and men in this regard, during its technical meeting on pushing forward the African Union agenda on girls’ and women’s education, held on 19 and 20 July 2022 in South Africa;

 47. *Urges* African countries and development partners to meet the needs of young people and empower them, in particular by tackling the high levels of youth unemployment through the development of quality education, skills training and entrepreneurship programmes that address illiteracy, enhance the employability and capabilities of young people, facilitate school-to-work transitions and expand guaranteed employment schemes, where appropriate, with particular attention to disadvantaged young people in both rural and urban areas, and in this regard takes note of the launch in 2022 of the African Union Women and Youth Financial and Economic Inclusion initiative, which seeks to enable financing opportunities and parity in employment for at least 1 million African women and youth by 2030, and the African Union 1 Million Next Level initiative, which seeks to provide opportunities for 300 million African youth by 2030 in the areas of education, employment, entrepreneurship, engagement, and health and well-being;

 48. *Reaffirms* the commitment of the General Assembly 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 the quality of such access and that high-speed broadband is already an essential enabler of sustainable development;

 49. *Recognizes* that improving access to school for all girls and boys, especially the poorest and most vulnerable and marginalized, and their ability to receive a quality education, and improving the quality of education beyond primary school can have a positive impact in terms of empowerment and on social, economic and political participation and thus on the fight against poverty and hunger and can contribute directly to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

 50. *Also recognizes* that Africa’s youthful population creates significant opportunities for the continent’s development, and underlines in this regard the importance of African countries creating appropriate policy environments, in collaboration with the United Nations system, in order to realize a demographic dividend, while adopting an inclusive results-based approach to development planning and implementation in accordance with national priorities and legislation;

 51. *Encourages* Governments, international organizations, other relevant institutions and stakeholders, as appropriate, to provide relevant skills training for youth, high-quality health-care services and dynamic labour markets to employ a growing population;

 52. *Recognizes* the need for Governments and the international community to continue to make efforts to increase the flow of new and additional resources for financing for sustainable development from all sources, public and private, domestic and foreign, to support the development of African countries, and welcomes the various important initiatives established between African countries and their development partners in this regard;

 53. *Acknowledges* the activities of the Bretton Woods institutions and the African Development Bank in African countries, and invites those institutions to continue their support for the implementation of the priorities and objectives of the New Partnership;

 54. *Encourages* African countries and their development partners to place people at the centre of government development action, to secure core investment spending in health, education and social protection and to give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems, recognizing that social protection floors can provide a basis from which to address poverty and vulnerability, and in this regard takes note of the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 101st session, on 14 June 2012, which can serve as a guideline for social investment;

 55. *Notes* the growing collaboration among the entities of the United Nations system in support of the African Union and its New Partnership, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to promote greater coherence in the work of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, on the basis of the agreed clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa;

 56. *Emphasizes* the importance for the cluster working on advocacy and communication to continue to muster international support for the New Partnership, and urges the United Nations system to demonstrate more evidence of cross-sectoral synergies to promote a comprehensive approach with regard to successive phases of planning and implementation of social development programmes in Africa;

 57. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development to continue to discuss in its annual programme of work those regional programmes that promote social development so as to enable all regions to share experiences and best practices, with the agreement of concerned countries, and in this regard requests that the work programmes of the Commission include social dimensions of the New Partnership, as appropriate;

 58. *Decides* that the Commission for Social Development should consider progress in the implementation of the social dimensions of the New Partnership and give due consideration to Agenda 2063 of the African Union at its sixty-third session;

 59. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and the Economic Commission for Africa, taking into consideration General Assembly resolution [77/270](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/77/270) of 20 February 2023, entitled “New Partnership for Africa’s Development: progress in implementation and international support”, to submit to the Commission for Social Development, for its consideration at its sixty-third session, an action-oriented report with recommendations on how to improve the effectiveness of the work of United Nations bodies in regard to the social dimensions of the New Partnership, Agenda 2063 and its links with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, taking into account current processes related to social development in Africa.

Draft resolution III

Fostering social development and social justice through social policies to accelerate progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve the overarching goal of poverty eradication

 *The Economic and Social Council*,

 *Recalling* its resolution [2023/12](https://undocs.org/en/E/RES/2023/12) of 7 June 2023, in which it decided that the priority theme of the 2024 session of the Commission for Social Development would be “Fostering social development and social justice through social policies to accelerate progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve the overarching goal of poverty eradication”,

 *Recalling also* the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,

 *Reaffirming* that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[[23]](#footnote-23) and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session[[24]](#footnote-24) constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels, and encouraging the continued global dialogue on social development issues,

 *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 deep concern that, more than 25 years after the convening of the World Summit for Social Development, progress has been slow and uneven between and within countries and regions, and major gaps remain,

 *Recalling* that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development gave the highest priority in national, regional and international policies and actions to the promotion of social progress, justice and the betterment of the human condition, based on full participation by all,

 *Recalling also* General Assembly resolution [70/1](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/70/1) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which the Assembly adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets and affirmed its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030 with a view to leaving no one behind and reaching the furthest behind first, 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 sustainable development,

 *Recalling further* General Assembly resolution [69/313](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/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,

 *Taking note* of the political declarations of the high-level meetings on health convened under the auspices of the General Assembly during the seventy-eighth session[[25]](#footnote-25) as efforts to highlight the importance of health on the high-level political agenda, recognizing that respecting the human right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and building equitable national health systems are essential to achieve universal health coverage, to build prevention, preparedness and response to pandemics, as well as other health emergencies, and to ending epidemics such as tuberculosis,

 *Recalling* General Assembly resolution [78/1](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/78/1) of 29 September 2023, entitled “Political declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly”, and urging timely action to ensure its implementation,

 *Recalling also* the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[[26]](#footnote-26) which, inter alia, recognizes the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living for himself or herself and his or her family, the right to work, the right to social security and the right to education, and noting the relevance of these provisions to the formulation of social policies, including family-oriented social protection policies and measures,

 *Recalling further* relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council which established the International Year of the Family and called for its observance on its tenth, twentieth and thirtieth anniversaries, including Council resolution [2014/8](https://undocs.org/en/E/RES/2014/8) of 12 June 2014,

 *Noting* that the family plays an important role in social protection and that over 4 billion people still lack social protection, that the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has intensified the reliance of persons vulnerable to poverty on their family, and recognizing the importance of responsive family-oriented policies, especially in the areas of poverty reduction, full and productive employment, and decent work and to confront social exclusion, recognizing the multidimensional aspects of social exclusion, focusing on inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all, health and well-being for all at all ages, social security, livelihoods and social cohesion, including through gender-responsive and age-sensitive social protection systems and measures, such as child allowances and pension benefits, and to ensure that the rights, capabilities and responsibilities of all family members are respected,

 *Noting also* the important work undertaken by the Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which has led to the formulation of global indicators, including on social protection,

 *Recognizing* the particular relevance of the International Labour Organization Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work[[27]](#footnote-27) for a socially just transition towards sustainable development, and recalling General Assembly resolution [73/327](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/73/327) of 25 July 2019, by which the Assembly decided to declare 2021 the International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour,

 *Reaffirming* the importance of supporting Agenda 2063 of the African Union, as well as its first 10-year implementation plan, 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[[28]](#footnote-28) and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme,

 *Taking note* of the Durban Call to Action on the Elimination of Child Labour from the fifth Global Conference on the Elimination of Child Labour, held in South Africa from 15 to 20 May 2022,

 *Recalling* the guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights[[29]](#footnote-29) adopted by the Human Rights Council in its resolution [21/11](https://undocs.org/en/A/HRC/RES/21/11) of 27 September 2012,[[30]](#footnote-30) as a useful tool for Member States in the formulation and implementation of poverty reduction and eradication policies, as appropriate, and encouraging Member States to implement the guiding principles,

 *Stressing* that at this critical moment in the decade of action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 the visions, principles and commitments made at the World Summit for Social Development remain valid and are central to addressing emerging global challenges, and recalling that social policies have a key role to play in addressing the immediate effects of socioeconomic crises and in the design of recovery strategies,

 *Emphasizing* that all human rights, including the right to development, are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and 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,

 *Reaffirming* the commitment to end poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including by eradicating extreme poverty by 2030, that all people must enjoy a basic standard of living, including through full and productive employment, decent work, and social protection systems, and to end hunger and to achieve food security as a matter of priority and to end all forms of malnutrition,

 *Acknowledging* that, with less than 10 years left to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, the COVID-19 pandemic slowed down and, in some cases, even reversed the progress in achieving many of the Goals by 2030, including Goal 1, which aims to end poverty in all its forms everywhere, Goal 8, which aims to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and Goal 10, which aims to reduce inequality within and among countries, and recognizing that those who are in vulnerable situations have been the hardest hit by the pandemic,

 *Noting with great concern* that the multiple crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic, have increased the number of those living in poverty, led to further impoverishment of those already living in poverty, widened inequalities, including gender inequality, increased unemployment, informal employment and the number of people who have left the labour market, and continue to disproportionately impact people in vulnerable situations, including older persons, persons with pre-existing medical conditions, women, children, including girls, youth, persons with disabilities, persons living with rare diseases, persons affected by conflict, migrants, refugees, internally displaced persons, people of African descent and Indigenous Peoples, local communities, workers in the informal economy, people living in rural areas and other people in vulnerable situations,

 *Recognizing* 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,

 *Expressing its deep concern* that the progress in reducing poverty remains uneven, with 1.1 billion people still living in multidimensional poverty, half of whom are children, and over 600 million people living in extreme poverty, and, on the basis of current trends, it is expected that there will still be 575 million people living in extreme poverty in 2030, and that these numbers continue 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,

 *Stressing* the importance of national and global efforts to create conditions for sustainable development, inclusive and sustained economic growth, shared prosperity and decent work for all in society, taking into account different levels of national development capacities,

 *Noting with concern* that high out-of-pocket health-care expenditures create significant health risks and impose a substantial financial burden on people, with 1 billion suffering catastrophic out-of-pocket costs annually, which can push people and their families into poverty, especially in developing countries, and that these challenges may have a disproportionate impact on women and girls,

 *Noting with concern also* that progress toward education for all has slowed and that poor households often struggle to afford the costs of sending their children to school, which can affect their future well-being and reduce opportunities later in life,

 *Acknowledging* that the social integration of people living in poverty and hunger should encompass access to quality education, lifelong learning opportunities, full and productive employment, decent work, health-care systems and adequate housing through integrated development strategies,

 *Noting* that the promotion of well-being for all people over their life cycle should be at the core of any efforts to reduce poverty and hunger and is an essential component of inclusive and resilient recovery, and recognizing that building efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable food systems is critical for guaranteeing food security and ensuring access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food by all,

 *Recognizing* that social justice for all is the foundation for overcoming inequalities, and that social development and social justice cannot be attained in the absence of peace and security or in the absence of respect for respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and noting that fostering social justice implies the recognition that individuals do not have the same starting point in life and that systemic barriers and societal biases create and perpetuate inequalities,

 *Recognizing also* that social justice cuts across various sectors, such as health, education, food, water, housing, investment, trade and employment, and that in the world of work, social justice implies non-discrimination, fair wages, labour rights, social dialogue and access to social protection for all,

 *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 Member States and the international community,

 *Reaffirming also* that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, particularly in Africa, in the least developed countries, in landlocked developing countries, in small island developing States and in some middle-income countries, and underlining the importance of accelerating sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth, recovery and sustainable development, including full, productive employment and decent work for all, with a view to reducing inequalities within and among countries,

 *Recognizing* the relevance of better understanding the multidimensional nature of development and poverty while stressing the need to use multidimensional analytical tools, including multidimensional poverty indices and risk analysis to capture the interlinked nature of deprivations and vulnerabilities as well as understand poverty dynamics and shape policy, and recognizing that appropriate national multidimensional poverty indices allow all countries to better target, coordinate and monitor poverty eradication measures,

 *Recognizing also* the important contribution that entrepreneurship makes to sustainable development by creating jobs and promoting decent work, driving inclusive economic growth and innovation, improving social conditions and addressing economic, social and environmental challenges in the context of the 2030 Agenda, and emphasizing that the role of entrepreneurship, including social entrepreneurship, and micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in social and economic development is more critical than ever in the post-COVID-19 recovery and beyond,

 *Recognizing further* that information and communications technologies, including artificial intelligence, present new opportunities and challenges to achieve social development and social justice and that there is a pressing need to address the major impediments that developing countries face in accessing new technologies for social development, stressing the need to close the digital divides, both between and within countries and including the rural-urban, youth-older persons and gender digital divides, and to harness information and communications technologies, including artificial intelligence, for development, and recalling the need to emphasize quality of access to bridge digital and knowledge divides to promote capacity in social policy design,

 *Recognizing* that sport is an enabler of social development and can be used as a means to access quality education and decent work, promote healthy lifestyles and well-being, reinforce solidarity and social cohesion, fight social exclusion and stereotypes and create economic opportunities for all, which can contribute to lifting people out of poverty,

 *Acknowledging* the need to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen international best practices on assets return and recovery as one of the sources of financing for development with a view to promoting decent work and reducing inequality within and among countries,

 *Stressing* that domestic public finance remains the primary source of financing for social spending globally, and in many countries, domestic public resources are insufficient to provide all people with adequate quality public services and match the scale and ambition of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

 *Deeply concerned* about the disproportionate impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on children, especially girls, including on their access to essential health-care services and education, acknowledging that school closures have hit the poorest and most vulnerable children and their families the hardest, that many children may never return to education as they are forced into child marriage or child labour, and that disruptions to food and health systems have contributed to a reversal in progress on maternal and child health and an increase in all forms of malnutrition, and contributed to an estimated additional 60 million children living in income-poor households in 2021,

 *Recognizing* the importance of new and emerging challenges and vulnerabilities in regard to developing country external and domestic debt sustainability, and the importance of improved international debt mechanisms to support debt review, debt payment suspensions and debt restructuring, as appropriate, with an expansion of support and eligibility to vulnerable countries in need,

 *Noting* the proposal contained in the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Our Common Agenda”[[31]](#footnote-31) to convene a world social summit in 2025, to be discussed and agreed upon by Member States, including its modalities, title, objectives, scope and possible outcomes, and emphasizing that the possible summit’s outcome should have a social development approach, including the need to place people at the centre of development and the pledge to make poverty eradication, full employment, and social integration the overriding development objectives, and give momentum towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

 1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[[32]](#footnote-32)

 2. *Acknowledges* the urgent need to accelerate action on all levels and by all stakeholders to fulfil the vision and Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[[33]](#footnote-33) and emphasizes that the international community, through the outcome documents of the major United Nations conferences and summits adopted by the General Assembly, has reinforced, inter alia, the urgency of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, creating full and productive employment and decent work for all, combating inequality within and among countries, protecting the environment, creating sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and fostering social inclusion within the United Nations development agenda, including the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[[34]](#footnote-34) the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030[[35]](#footnote-35) and the New Urban Agenda;[[36]](#footnote-36)

 3. *Reaffirms* the commitment to implementing the 2030 Agenda for all by ensuring that no one would be left behind and reaching the furthest behind first, including by fostering social development and social justice through social policies, and by recognizing human rights and that the dignity of the human person is fundamental;

 4. *Recognizes* the need for strengthening international cooperation to provide necessary financial assistance, technical support and capacity-building to developing countries for attaining Sustainable Development Goals related to social development, by creating full and productive employment and decent work for all;

 5. *Calls upon* Member States to promote, respect and protect human rights, in accordance with their obligations under international human rights law;

 6. *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, of which the Addis Ababa Action Agenda is an integral part, supporting and complementing it;

 7. *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 decent work and job creation programmes and social protection systems, are needed;

 8. *Acknowledges* that recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic gives additional opportunity to develop integrated long-term policy frameworks to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, and that such frameworks should aim to simultaneously build a more inclusive, equitable and adaptable labour market with full and productive employment and decent work for all, enhance people’s capabilities and well-being, address the feminization of poverty, promote acceleration actions at the national, regional and international levels and ensure sustainable livelihoods for all, and also recognizes that a multidimensional analysis of poverty and unemployment should inform these recovery strategies;

 9. *Encourages* Member States to promote affordable and equitable access to basic services, in particular quality formal and non-formal education, at all levels, including programmes that promote equality and inclusion through the affirmation of the fundamental dignity of the human person, and health-care services, including through the acceleration of the transition towards equitable access to universal health coverage, as well as access to affordable housing, nutrition and food, and access to employment and decent work, information and communications technology and infrastructure, through advancing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

 10. *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;

 11. *Recognizes* that ensuring access to inclusive and equitable quality education for all and promoting lifelong learning opportunities are essential to helping people to overcome poverty and vulnerability, and in this regard emphasizes the importance of addressing the shortage of qualified teachers and inadequate curricula, school equipment and infrastructure;

 12. *Recognizes* *and promotes* lifelong learning and training for all, in both formal and informal settings, and supports domestic literacy programmes, including vocational education components and non-formal education, to support employment growth, enhance the quality of jobs, support skills development for the new forms of work, foster equal opportunities and reduce inequality in the labour market;

 13. *Encourages* Member States to address underlying causes of inequality by promoting a sustainable economy for the well-being of all, investing in programmes for poverty eradication, as well as in the promotion of equitable and universal access to basic services and in quality and resilient infrastructure, including health-care services; education, lifelong learning and skills training; education infrastructure; safe drinking water and sanitation; affordable housing; affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy services; sustainable transport systems; and affordable access to the Internet and connectivity, including by working to ensure that service delivery is aimed at progressively reaching universal access, with particular attention given to the needs of those in vulnerable situations;

 14. *Encourages* Governments to continue their efforts to develop strategies and programmes aimed at strengthening national capacities to address national priorities relating to family-oriented policies 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, to prevent the intergenerational transfer and feminization of poverty, create full and productive employment and decent work for all, and ensure the well-being of all at all ages in order to achieve the 2030 Agenda;

 15. *Stresses* the importance of establishing and implementing targeted policies and measures to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, by formulating development strategies with clear poverty eradication goals, strengthening national statistical capacity and monitoring systems, including innovative use of telephone surveys and high-resolution data facilitated by remote sensing, and implementing nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, and taking concrete actions to prevent the return to poverty, especially when the past three years have witnessed a sharp setback in poverty reduction, with a view to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions, economic, social and environmental, and building the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations;

 16. *Calls upon* Governments to adopt measures to combat trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, modern slavery, and sexual and other forms of exploitation that victimize persons in situations of poverty, and to address the underlying economic and social causes of trafficking in persons and other forms of exploitation, including by discouraging the demand which fosters all forms of exploitation of persons, especially women and children;

 17. *Invites* Governments to undertake the necessary adaptations to policies and regulations to support decent work and employment growth, foster equal opportunities and reduce inequalities and discrimination in the labour market, by enhancing effective labour market institutions, by enabling adequate remuneration through measures such as statutory or negotiated minimum wages, equal pay for work of equal value, employment protection legislation and employment law, and their effective implementation so that all workers enjoy labour rights;

 18. *Reiterates* the commitment of Member States to promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services, in both rural and urban sectors, and promote technologies that generate productive employment and decent work;

 19. *Invites* Governments to incorporate the provision of digital competencies, including but not limited to entrepreneurship and complementary soft skills, in formal education curricula and lifelong learning initiatives to address the implications of fundamental changes in the digital economy and industry 4.0 for labour markets;

 20. *Invites* Member States to consider adopting labour market policies that strengthen institutions and provide adequate labour protection to all workers, especially the most disadvantaged, including through social dialogue and minimum wage policies, while taking into account the role of workers’ and employers’ organizations, as applicable, as part of policies to boost income growth for the vast majority of workers, taking into consideration the specific circumstances of each country;

 21. *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;

 22. *Encourages* Member States to accelerate efforts to promote the transition from informal to formal work in all sectors through integrated strategies that comprise nuanced and differentiated measures for decent work and reliable social protection, including by leveraging e-formalization policies and investing in the creation of more decent work opportunities, including by supporting new and growing sectors such as the care economy, sustainable economy and digital economy to absorb informal workers, and to establish appropriate interventions that can strengthen the capacity of employers and workers to comply with existing standards and regulations of paying taxes and making social security contributions in ways and intervals tailored to the income patterns of informal and rural economy workers, by supporting the adaptation or simplification of regulations and procedures, establishing incentives to formalize and strengthening government oversight and capacity-building of tax and labour inspection services and social security;

 23. *Calls upon* Member States to establish well-designed programmes that are aimed at ensuring equal opportunities and treatment in the world of work and facilitating and supporting the inclusion in the labour market of those in vulnerable situations, including women, youth, persons with disabilities, persons living with rare diseases, older persons, Indigenous Peoples, migrants, members of national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, and people living with HIV, including by strengthening active labour market policies and social protection systems;

 24. *Urges* Member States to provide specific programmes and mobilize financial resources and technologies to support women to return to economic activity, including access to decent work, training and financial services, strengthening their economic empowerment and autonomy, and to protect and promote the right to work and rights at work of all women, facilitate women’s full and equal participation in the labour market and ensure the equal access of women to decent work and quality jobs in all sectors and at all levels;

 25. *Calls upon* Member States to promote, respect and protect labour rights, promote decent work and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment, and recognizes that the positive contribution of women migrant workers has the potential to foster inclusive growth and sustainable development in countries of origin, transit and destination, underlining the value and dignity of their labour, in all sectors, including in care and domestic work, and also calls upon Member States to strengthen international cooperation for safe, orderly and regular migration;

 26. *Encourages* Member States to implement policies that ensure women’s economic empowerment by supporting the full and productive participation of women in the labour market, including women with disabilities, and those living in poverty and female heads of household, and to promote equal pay for equal work or work of equal value, the equal sharing of responsibilities between parents, access to affordable and quality childcare services and facilities, work-family balance, including, inter alia, while caring for children, older persons, persons with disabilities, and by promoting their full, equal and meaningful participation in the economy, including by supporting women’s entrepreneurship, and in decision-making processes at all levels;

 27. *Calls upon* Member States to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, and ensure non-discrimination, racial and cultural diversity and inclusion, and equity by developing and implementing an integrated and comprehensive approach through the entire life course, by removing barriers that prevent women from accessing, remaining and progressing in the labour market, such as gender stereotypes, all forms of violence, including gender-based violence, discriminatory laws and practices and the unfair division of unpaid care work, by closing gender pay and pension gaps and by further realizing equal pay for equal work, including care work;

 28. *Encourages* Member States to undertake the necessary adaptations to foster an enabling business environment for the promotion of inclusive and sustainable economic growth, decent work and decent job creation, as well as entrepreneurship, including social entrepreneurship, innovation and sustainable enterprises, through the enhancement of international cooperation and partnership with the private sector, including improving access to credit, particularly for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and adopt public policies to combat unnecessary bureaucracy and corruption, as well as illicit financial flows, and strengthen good practices on assets return and recovery;

 29. *Recognizes* that family policies are most effective when targeting the family unit and its dynamic as a whole, including taking into consideration the needs of its members, and notes that family-oriented policies aim in particular at strengthening, and should be designed to enhance, a household’s capacity to escape poverty, ensure financial independence and support work-family balance to help manage family functions and foster child development;

 30. *Encourages* Member States to enact family-oriented and gender-responsive policies that support the creation of decent jobs in new, sustainable and growing sectors, including the sustainable economy, digital economy, care economy and, as appropriate, social and solidarity economy, through, inter alia, appropriate investments in flexible and accessible skills and qualification development policies designed with the support of social partners that are tailored to the needs of these new sectors, policies that promote an environmentally sustainable and digitally empowered just transition that is fair and inclusive, legislative frameworks that determine the employment status of digital platform workers and protect their rights, and policies that ensure their effective implementation;

 31. *Also encourages* Member States to promote and implement national, local and regional strategies, policies and programmes for supporting and enhancing the social and solidarity economy as a possible model for sustainable economic and social development, taking into account national circumstances, plans and priorities by developing legal frameworks, aiming to strengthen the integration in the economy of people living in poverty and in vulnerable situations, including Indigenous Peoples, local communities and farmers, and creating suitable environments to protect and promote their traditional practices and knowledge in productive activities;

 32. *Further encourages* Member States to respect, promote and realize the right to work and to prevent and eliminate unequal division of domestic care, violence, abuse and sexual harassment, while recognizing that violence and harassment are a threat to equal opportunities, are unacceptable and incompatible with decent work and may prevent women from accessing, remaining and advancing in the labour market;

 33. *Acknowledges* that the exacerbation of poverty during the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in an increase in child labour, and urges Member States to take immediate and effective measures to secure the prohibition and ensure the elimination of child labour in all its forms, by 2025 at the latest;

 34. *Recognizes* that nationally appropriate universal social protection systems for all address multiple, often interrelated and complex causes of poverty and inequality by easing the burden of certain expenditure during periods of unemployment, contributing to health-related goals, gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, and decent work, and facilitating the full inclusion of persons with disabilities, persons with rare diseases, and older persons;

 35. *Also recognizes* that nationally appropriate social protection systems make a critical contribution to the realization of human rights for all, in particular for those who are trapped in poverty and hunger, and that promoting universal access to social services and providing nationally appropriate social protection floors can contribute to reducing inequality and poverty, addressing social exclusion and promoting inclusive economic growth, and in this regard takes note of the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), of the International Labour Organization;

 36. *Encourages* Member States to invest in building national social protection systems that are, as appropriate, universal, risk-informed, gender-responsive and family-oriented, that combine social insurance and non-contributory (tax-financed) schemes, to ensure that everyone has access to comprehensive, adequate, progressive and sustainable social protection over the life course, through design and implementation features that support the inclusion of those in vulnerable situations who are often left out of social protection systems (including unpaid caregivers, the “missing middle” and informal workers), and contribute to just structural transformations by responding to social protection needs, including those stemming from the growth of the sustainable economy and the digital economy, and enable the increased responsiveness of programmes to disasters caused by hazards of all kinds, including through public and private investment in disaster risk reduction;

 37. *Also encourages* Member States to establish comprehensive and well-coordinated social policies, including universal social protection schemes, by investing in evidenced-based good practices, including by strengthening the capacities of national evaluation services to direct public funds towards social policies, including social protection policies and schemes that have proven to be effective and efficient;

 38. *Further encourages* Member States, when designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating social protection programmes for social development, to ensure gender mainstreaming throughout this process;

 39. *Recognizes* the important role that families can play in combating social exclusion, and highlights the importance of investing in inclusive and responsive family-oriented policies and programmes in areas such as education, training, decent work, work-family balance, health-care services, social services, intergenerational relationships and solidarity and targeted cash transfers for families in vulnerable situations, in order to reduce inequality and promote the well-being of all persons of all ages, as well as to contribute to better outcomes for children and other family members in vulnerable situations and help to break the intergenerational transfer of poverty;

 40. *Acknowledges* the vital role that sustainable social protection systems played in the COVID-19 pandemic response, and encourages Member States to provide a policy window for the countries concerned to address their significant gaps in social protection coverage by making progress towards universal, adequate, comprehensive and sustainable social protection systems, by including, in accordance with their national legislations, basic income, child benefits, maternity benefits, sickness benefits, disability benefits, unemployment benefits and old-age pension, and that these social protection systems should identify and close coverage gaps, especially for those who are in vulnerable situations, including informal workers, migrants and unpaid carers;

 41. *Encourages* Member States to provide universal age-, disability-, gender-responsive and family-oriented social protection systems, which are key to ensuring poverty reduction, including, as appropriate, targeted cash transfers for people and families in vulnerable situations, such as when 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 essential services, high-quality education and health-care services;

 42. *Stresses* the need to better coordinate social protection policies and measures with poverty reduction programmes and other social policies to avoid excluding people in informal or precarious jobs, and recognizes the need to promote transitions towards the formal economy, expanding and upgrading existing social assistance programmes by increasing benefit level and coverage to informal workers, including seasonal and casual labourers in rural areas;

 43. *Encourages* Member States to consider supporting the implementation of the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for a Just Transition, including through the promotion of decent work and sustainable and universal social protection systems;

 44. *Also encourages* Member States to develop long-term, inclusive and prevention-oriented social development recovery plans that will improve people’s capacities and well-being, through investing in social services and quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including basic school infrastructure, and health-care services, safe drinking water and sanitation, affordable housing, ensuring decent employment, adequate social protection coverage and affordable and reliable digital technology, Internet access and connectivity;

 45. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to take action to bridge the digital divides within and between countries and spread the benefits of digitalization, and to expand participation of all countries, in particular developing countries, in the digital economy, including by enhancing their digital infrastructure connectivity, building their capacities and access to technological innovations through stronger partnerships and improving digital literacy, and further calls upon Member States to leverage digital technology to expand the foundations on which to strengthen social protection systems;

 46. *Notes with concern* that unfair practices could hinder technological development and innovation worldwide, in particular in developing countries, and calls uponthe international community to foster an open and inclusive environment for scientific and technological development;

 47. *Encourages* Member States to improve accountability, transparency and capabilities of the public sector and to facilitate the effective and meaningful participation and empowerment of those in vulnerable situations, those working in the informal economy and those living in poverty in the design, implementation and monitoring of social policies, including by strengthening social dialogue and mechanisms for multi-stakeholder engagement and by supporting civil society organizations;

 48. *Urges* Member States to address multiple causes of poverty, hunger and inequality, through decent work and job creation; increasing resilience; improving coherence between social protection, food security and nutrition policies; providing targeted cash transfers; promoting digital and financial literacy and inclusion; ensuring equal opportunities and access to healthy diets from sustainable food systems; ensuring access to quality education and lifelong learning opportunities without discrimination; combating all forms of discrimination; empowering all people and facilitating the social inclusion and participation of those who face multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination; and prioritizing investment in early childhood education, nutrition and care to break intergenerational poverty;

 49. *Also urges* Member States to place social considerations at the heart of development frameworks, including by reinforcing synergies between and among social, economic and environmental policies, as appropriate, and by making use of institutional resources such as coordination between ministries and an integrated approach;

 50. *Reaffirms* that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, 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, biodiversity loss, land degradation, desertification, sand and dust storms, sea level rise, coastal erosion, ocean acidification and the retreat of mountain glaciers, further threatening food security, water availability and livelihoods, recognizes the substantial risks posed by climate change to health, underlines the need to address the economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change, and emphasizes the need for action at all levels, including through mitigation and adaptation efforts, to build resilience that can contribute to eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions and ending hunger;

 51. *Recognizes* the efforts at all levels to establish and strengthen social protection measures and programmes, including national safety nets and social protection floors, for those in need and those in vulnerable situations, inter alia, food and cash-for-work, cash transfer and voucher programmes, school feeding programmes and mother-and-child nutrition programmes, and affordable housing, and in this regard underlines the importance of increasing investment, capacity-building and systems development;

 52. *Urges* Member States to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by guaranteeing equal access to opportunities and social protection for all, in particular for those in vulnerable situations, including by mainstreaming a gender perspective in labour market participation, division of care work and in food security programmes, especially for those women and girls who experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and violence, considering that the empowerment of women and girls in diverse situations and conditions will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda;

 53. *Calls upon* Member States to adopt policies, programmes and other measures to recognize, reduce and redistribute women’s and girls’ disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work and the feminization of poverty, which was exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, including through poverty eradication measures, labour policies, public services and gender-responsive social protection programmes;

 54. *Recognizes* that investing in the capacities of women and girls is important for them to reach their full potential as well as in reducing poverty, food insecurity, malnutrition and inequalities, and in achieving higher productivity and boosting social returns in terms of health, lower infant mortality and the well-being of their families;

 55. *Encourages* Member States to recognize, reduce and redistribute unpaid care and domestic work, particularly by women, and enhance efforts to ensure equal pay for equal work or work of equal value, and to promote work-family balance as conducive to the well-being of children, youth, persons with disabilities, persons living with rare diseases, and older persons and the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, inter alia, through the improvement of working conditions for workers with family responsibilities, expanding flexible working arrangements, including through the use of new information and communications technologies, and providing and/or expanding leave arrangements, such as maternity leave and paternity leave, and adequate social security benefits for both women and men, taking appropriate steps to ensure that they are not discriminated against when availing themselves of such benefits and promoting men’s awareness and use of such opportunities, for their children’s developmental benefit and as a means of enabling women to increase their participation in the labour market;

 56. *Also encourages* Member States to facilitate the digital and financial literacy and inclusion of women and their equal access to formal financial services, including timely and affordable credit, loans, savings, insurance and remittance transfer schemes; integrate a gender perspective into finance sector policy and regulations, in accordance with national priorities and legislation, encourage financial institutions, such as commercial banks, development banks, agricultural banks, microfinance institutions, mobile network operators, agent networks, cooperatives, postal banks and savings banks, to provide access to financial products, services and information to women and encourage the use of innovative tools and platforms, including online and mobile banking;

 57. *Calls upon* Member States to address the harmful effects of the COVID‑19 pandemic on children by mitigating the damaging socioeconomic impacts, including by ensuring the continuity of child-centred services and policies on an equal and attainable access basis, upholding the right of the child to quality education, including early childhood education, on the basis of equal opportunity and non-discrimination and supporting education that is inclusive, equitable and accessible by implementing appropriate measures to ensure supporting families in the return of children, particularly girls and children in vulnerable situations, to school, and access to opportunities to catch up on lost learning;

 58. *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;

 59. *Calls upon* Member States to increase investment in social development through, inter alia, domestic resource mobilization for social policies by broadening the tax base, making use of progressive taxation and strengthening national tax services to ensure that they have the capacity to design, administer and enforce these policies;

 60. *Reaffirms* 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;

 61. *Also reaffirms* that international cooperation has an essential role in assisting developing countries, including highly indebted poor countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing Member States and middle-income countries, in strengthening their human, institutional and technological capacity;

 62. *Calls upon* the international community to assist developing countries in the implementation of national human resources development strategies, and encourages the international community, including the private sector and relevant civil society actors, to provide and mobilize financial resources, capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and to supply expertise from all sources, as available;

 63. *Also calls* *upon* the international community to strengthen multilateral cooperation to enhance fiscal space for social spending by cooperating with regional, subregional and national development banks to align lending capacities with national development priorities and help to meet the financing needs of developing countries, while continuing to assist developing countries in avoiding a build-up of unsustainable debt and in implementing resilience measures so as to reduce the risk of relapsing into another debt crisis;

 64. *Encourages* developed countries to implement their official development assistance 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 to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries;

 65. *Calls upon* the international community to support countries to achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors to engage further on the implementation of existing commitments on technology transfer on mutually agreed terms;

 66. *Welcomes* the contributions of South-South cooperation to the promotion of full and productive employment and decent work for all, 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 itself to strengthening South-South and triangular cooperation as a means of bringing relevant experience and expertise to bear in development cooperation;

 67. *Stresses* the essential role that official development assistance 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;

 68. *Encourages* the international community to intensify development cooperation, including through South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation, as well as multi-stakeholder partnerships, to support countries, especially developing countries, upon their request, in building their national capacity for science, technology and innovation for social development, as well as to support research networks that reach across borders, institutions and disciplines;

 69. *Calls upon* the international community to strengthen multilateral cooperation, by mobilizing resources for an inclusive recovery and exploring the voluntary rechannelling of special drawing rights through multilateral development banks to countries most in need, while respecting the relevant legal frameworks and preserving the character of special drawing rights, and 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;

 70. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to provide information that can help Member States to prepare for the challenges that ageing poses to meeting social protection obligations, sustaining fiscal systems and strengthening social stability, especially in countries that are still developing and countries with ageing populations;

 71. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders, including the United Nations system and civil society organizations, to continue to promote the exchange of information and good practices on programmes, policies and measures that successfully reduce inequality in all its dimensions;

 72. *Invites* the United Nations system to continue to support Member States, upon their request, in their pursuit of sustainable livelihoods, well-being and dignity for all, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and facilitate international cooperation to strengthen social policies to foster social development and social justice as a way of overcoming inequalities and eradicating poverty, and to achieve the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for the common future of present and coming generations.

 B. Draft decisions for adoption by the Council

2. The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I

Priority theme of the sixty-third session of the Commission for Social Development

 The Economic and Social Council decides that the priority theme of the sixty-third session of the Commission for Social Development shall be “Strengthening solidarity, social inclusion and social cohesion to accelerate the delivery of the commitments of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development as well as the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”.

Draft decision II

Report of the Commission for Social Development on its sixty‑second session and provisional agenda of and documentation for the sixty-third session

 The Economic and Social Council:

 (a) Takes note of the report of the Commission for Social Development on its sixty-second session;[[37]](#footnote-37)

 (b) Approves the provisional agenda of and documentation for the sixty-third session of the Commission as set out below:

 Provisional agenda of and documentation for the sixty-third session of the Commission

 1. Election of officers.

 2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

 3. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly:

 Documentation

 Report of the Secretary-General on the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development

 (a) Priority theme: strengthening solidarity, social inclusion and social cohesion to accelerate the delivery of the commitments of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development as well as the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

 Documentation

 Report of the Secretary-General on the priority theme

 (b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:

 (i) 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;[[38]](#footnote-38)

 (ii) World Programme of Action for Youth;

 (iii) Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;

 (iv) Family issues, policies and programmes;

 Documentation

 Report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for and observance of the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family

 Report of the Secretary-General on policies and programmes involving youth

 Modalities for the fifth review and appraisal of the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

 (c) Emerging issues: (*to be determined*).

 Documentation

 Note by the Secretary-General on emerging issues

 4. Programme questions and other matters:

 (a) Proposed programme plan for 2026;

 (b) United Nations Research Institute for Social Development.

 Documentation

 Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

 5. Provisional agenda for the sixty-fourth session of the Commission.

 6. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its sixty-third session.

 C. Decisions calling for action by the Council

3. Pursuant to the following decision, adopted by the Commission, the Economic and Social Council is requested to confirm the nomination of five candidates to the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development:

Decision 62/101

Nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

4. The Commission decided to nominate Godwin Murunga as a member of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development for an additional two-year term beginning on the date of confirmation by the Economic and Social Council and expiring on 30 June 2026. The Commission also decided to nominate Leila Patel, Diego Sánchez-Ancochea, Dzodzi Tsikata and Timo Voipio to serve on the Board of the Institute for a four-year term beginning on the date of confirmation by the Economic and Social Council and expiring on 30 June 2028.

Chapter II

Organizational matters: priority theme of the sixty-third session of the Commission for Social Development

Action taken by the Commission

5. At its 12th meeting, on 14 February 2024, the Commission adopted a draft decision entitled “Priority theme of the sixty-third session of the Commission for Social Development” ([E/CN.5/2024/L.3](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/L.3)), submitted by the Vice-Chair (Dominican Republic) on the basis of informal consultations, and recommended it to the Economic and Social Council for its final adoption (see chap. I.B, draft decision I).

6. After the adoption of the draft decision, a statement was made by the observer for Mexico.

Chapter III

Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

7. The Commission considered agenda item 3 at its 2nd to 12th meetings, from 5 to 8 and on 12 and 14 February 2024. It had before it the following documents:

 (a) Report of the Secretary-General on the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development ([E/CN.5/2024/2](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/2));

 (b) Report of the Secretary-General on fostering social development and social justice through social policies to accelerate progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve the overarching goal of poverty eradication ([E/CN.5/2024/3](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/3) and Corr.1);

 (c) Note by the Secretariat on the influence of digital transformation on inclusive growth and development: a path to realizing social justice ([E/CN.5/2024/4](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/4));

 (d) Report of the Secretary-General on preparations for and observance of the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family ([A/79/61-E/2024/48](https://undocs.org/en/A/79/61));

 (e) Statements submitted by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council ([E/CN.5/2024/NGO/1-70](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/NGO/1)).

8. At the 2nd meeting, on 5 February, the Commission began its consideration of agenda item 3, during which the Officer-in-Charge and Acting Director of the Division for Inclusive Social Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs introduced the documentation under agenda item 3 as a whole.

Action taken by the Commission under agenda item 3 as a whole

Promoting care and support systems for social development

9. At the 12th meeting, on 14 February, the representative of Chile (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Mexico and Paraguay) introduced a draft resolution entitled “Promoting care and support systems for social development” ([E/CN.5/2024/L.5](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/L.5)). Subsequently, Austria, Cyprus, Germany, Greece, Luxembourg, Malta, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

10. At the same meeting, Morocco joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

11. Also at the same meeting, the Commission adopted draft resolution [E/CN.5/2024/L.5](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/L.5) and recommended it to the Economic and Social Council for its final adoption (see chap I.A, draft resolution I).

12. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Costa Rica, Egypt and the United States of America, as well as by the observer for Belgium (on behalf of the European Union).

Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development

13. At the 12th meeting, on 14 February, the representative of Uganda (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) introduced a draft resolution entitled “Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development” ([E/CN.5/2024/L.6](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/L.6)).

14. At the same meeting, Türki̇ye joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

15. Also at the same meeting, the Commission adopted draft resolution [E/CN.5/2024/L.6](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/L.6) and recommended it to the Economic and Social Council for its final adoption (see chap I.A, draft resolution II).

16. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America.

 A. Priority theme: fostering social development and social justice through social policies to accelerate progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve the overarching goal of poverty eradication

17. The Commission considered sub-item 3 (a) at its 2nd to 5th and 8th to 12th meetings, on 5, 6, 8, 12 and 14 February, and held a general discussion on sub-items 3 (a) and (b) at its 2nd, 5th, 10th and 11th meetings, on 5, 6, and 12 February.

18. At its 2nd meeting, on 5 February, the Commission began its joint general discussion of sub-items 3 (a) and (b) and heard statements by the representatives of Uganda (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Luxembourg (on behalf of the LGBTI Core Group), Portugal, Austria, Egypt (pre-recorded), Finland and Türki̇ye, as well by the observers for Belgium (on behalf of the European Union), Trinidad and Tobago (on behalf of the Caribbean Community), Belarus (on behalf of the Group of Friends of the Family), Botswana (on behalf of the Group of African States), Kenya, Romania, the United Arab Emirates (pre-recorded), Botswana, Guyana, Cameroon and Jordan.

19. At its 5th meeting, on 6 February, the Commission resumed its general discussion of sub-items 3 (a) and (b) and heard statements by the representatives of Ghana, Costa Rica, Peru, India, Paraguay, Switzerland, Zambia, Poland, China, Libya, the Dominican Republic (pre-recorded) and Cuba, as well as by the observers for Trinidad and Tobago, Cyprus, Guatemala, Cambodia, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Philippines, Germany, Qatar, Mexico, Thailand, Croatia (pre‑recorded), South Africa, Montenegro, Bulgaria, Pakistan, Indonesia, Italy, Belarus, Greece, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

20. At its 10th meeting, on 12 February, the Commission resumed its general discussion of the sub-items and heard statements by the representatives of Luxembourg, the Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Israel, Djibouti, Brazil, Japan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the United States of America and Nigeria, as well as by the observers for Zimbabwe, Yemen, Malta, Nicaragua, Algeria, Burkina Faso, Sweden, Tunisia, Canada, Malawi, Mauritania, Iraq, Czechia, Ireland, Georgia, Spain, Viet Nam, Mali, Malaysia, Kuwait, Hungary (in-person statement, followed by a pre‑recorded statement), Monaco and Suriname.

21. At its 11th meeting, also on 12 February, the Commission continued its general discussion of the sub-items and heard statements by the representatives of Haiti, Ukraine, Colombia, Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh and the Russian Federation, as well as by the observers for Slovenia, Maldives, the Syrian Arab Republic, El Salvador, Chile, Senegal, Jamaica, Eswatini and Morocco. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the observer for the Holy See.

22. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the International Organization for Migration and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS.

23. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: UNANIMA International, Red Dot Foundation, International Federation for Family Development, Congregation of the Mission, International Federation on Ageing, Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Loreto Generalate, Doha International Family Institute, Make Mothers Matter, Life Project 4 Youth, Save the Children International, International Relations Students’ Association of McGill University, The Blue Tree Foundation, World Organization for Early Childhood Education, Irene Menakaya School Onitsha, International Committee for Peace and Reconciliation, Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University, Concepts of Truth, Inc., Caring & Living as Neighbours, Incorporated (CLAN), Miss Caricom Int’l. Foundation CIP, Inc., Heal the Land Initiative in Nigeria, Leah Charity Foundation, United Children of Nigeria, Eloise Hylton Inc and International Confederation of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

High-level panel discussion on the priority theme

24. At its 3rd meeting, on 5 February, the Commission held a high-level panel discussion on the priority theme “Fostering social development and social justice through social policies to accelerate progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve the overarching goal of poverty eradication”, under sub-item 3, moderated by the President of Club of Madrid and former President of Slovenia, Danilo Türk, who made a statement. Following the keynote address by the Samuel Z. Stone Professor of Latin American economics and founding Director of the Commitment to Equity Initiative at Tulane University, Nora Lustig (via video link), the Commission heard presentations by the following panellists: Head of International Labour Affairs, Labour Directorate, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs of Switzerland, Valérie Berset Bircher; Director of Development Cooperation Policy at Hellenic Aid of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece, Eleni Nikolaidou; General Director of the Supérate Programme of the Presidency of the Dominican Republic, Gloria Reyes; and Director of the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative at the University of Oxford, Sabina Alkire. During the ensuing interactive discussion, statements were made by the representatives of Türkiye, Costa Rica and Egypt, as well as by the observers for the Philippines and Kenya. The observer for the European Union also made a statement. The representative of the following non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council also participated in the discussion: Parents’ House Foundation. The panellists responded to the questions posed and comments made by the representatives and observers.

Ministerial forum on the priority theme

25. At its 4th meeting, on 6 February, the Commission held a ministerial forum on the priority theme under sub-item 3 (a). Presentations were made by the following panellists: Federal Minister of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection of Austria, Johannes Rauch; Minister of Development and Social Assistance of Brazil, Wellington Dias (pre-recorded); Minister of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security of Portugal, Ana Mendes Godinho; Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development of Uganda, Betty Amongi; and Vice-Minister of Multilateral Affairs of Costa Rica, Alejandro Solano Ortiz. During the ensuing interactive discussion, statements were made by the representative of Türkiye, as well as by the observers for Romania, Cyprus, Chile, Kenya and Guyana. The panellists responded to the questions posed and comments made by the representatives and observers.

Interactive dialogue with senior officials of the United Nations system on the priority theme

26. At its 8th meeting, on 8 February, the Commission held an interactive dialogue with senior officials of the United Nations system on the priority theme under sub‑item 3 (a), moderated by the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter‑Agency Affairs at the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, who made a statement. Presentations were made by the following panellists: the Director-General of the International Labour Organization, Gilbert Houngbo; the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe, Tatiana Molcean (via video link); the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana (pre-recorded); the Director and Leader of the Gender Justice, Population and Inclusive Development Cluster of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, Mehrinaz El Awady; Chief of the Social Policy Section of the Gender, Poverty and Social Policy Division of the Economic Commission for Africa, Saurabh Sinha; and Senior Social Affairs Officer of the Social Development Division of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Rodrigo Martínez. During the ensuing interactive discussion, statements were made by the representatives of Egypt and the Islamic Republic of Iran. The observer for the European Union also made a statement. The representative of the following non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council also participated in the discussion: Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd. The panellists responded to the questions posed and comments made by the representative and observer.

Multi-stakeholder forum on the priority theme

27. At its 9th meeting, also on 8 February, the Commission held a multi-stakeholder forum on the priority theme under sub-item 3 (a), moderated by the Chair of the NGO Committee on Social Development, Jean Quinn, who made a statement. Presentations were made by the following panellists: the Deputy President of the International Trade Union Confederation, Cathy Feingold; the President of the Club of Madrid and former President of the Republic of Slovenia, Danilo Türk; the President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Cooperative Business Association CLUSA International, Doug O’Brien; the National Coordinator of WorldWIDE Network Nigeria: Women in Development and Environment, Ifeyinwa Ofong; and the Special Representative to the United Nations for the International Organisation of Employers, Shea Gopaul. At the same meeting, the representative of the following non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council participated in the discussion: Institute for Planetary Synthesis. The panellists responded to the questions posed and comments made.

Action taken by the Commission on agenda item 3 (a)

28. At the 12th meeting, on 14 February, the Commission adopted a draft resolution entitled “Fostering social development and social justice through social policies to accelerate progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve the overarching goal of poverty eradication” ([E/CN.5/2024/L.4](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/L.4)), submitted by the Chair (India) on the basis of informal consultations, and recommended it to the Economic and Social Council for its final adoption (see chap. I.A, draft resolution III).

29. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representative of the United States of America and by the observer for Qatar (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf).

30. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Egypt, Libya, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Djibouti and Nigeria and by the observers for Malaysia, Hungary, Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), Mexico, Mali, Senegal, the Syrian Arab Republic and Morocco, as well as by the observer for the Holy See.

 B. Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups

31. The Commission considered sub-item 3 (b) at its 2nd, 5th, 6th and 10th to 12th meetings, from 5 to 7, and on 12 and 14 February, and held a general discussion of the sub-item and sub-item 3 (a) (Priority theme: fostering social development and social justice through social policies to accelerate progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve the overarching goal of poverty eradication) at its 2nd, 5th, 10th and 11th meetings, on 5, 6 and 12 February. (For a discussion of the general discussion of the sub-items, see chap. III.A, paras. 17–23.)

High-level panel discussion on the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family

32. At its 6th meeting, on 7 February, the Commission held a high-level panel discussion on the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family under sub-item 3 (b). After an opening statement by the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, Maria-Francesca Spatolisano, the discussion was moderated by the Officer-in-Charge and Acting Director of the Division for Inclusive Social Development of the Department for Economic and Social Affairs, John Wilmoth, who made a statement. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Professor of human development and family sciences at the University of Delaware, Bahira Trask; Professor and Head of the Department of Sociology at the University of Pretoria, Zitha Mokomane; Associate Professor Emeritus of the Department of Family Social Science at the University of Minnesota, Susan Walker; and Acting Director-General of the Department of Social Development of South Africa, Linton Mchunu. During the ensuing interactive discussion, statements were made by the representatives of Türkiye, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Cuba, the Russian Federation, Egypt, India and Israel, as well as by the observers for Guyana, Malaysia, Kenya, Iraq and Qatar. A statement was also made by the observer of the European Union. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: International Federation for Family Development, Doha International Family Institute, The Blue Tree Foundation and SOS Children’s Villages International. The panellists responded to the questions posed and comments made by the representatives and observers.

 C. Emerging issues: the influence of digital transformation on inclusive growth and development: a path to realizing social justice

Panel discussion on emerging issues

33. At its 7th meeting, on 7 February, the Commission held a panel discussion on emerging issues, entitled “The influence of digital transformation on inclusive growth and development: a path to realizing social justice”, under sub‑item 3 (c), moderated by the Special Representative to the United Nations and Director of the International Labour Organization Office for the United Nations, Cynthia Samuel-Olonjuwon, who made a statement. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Secretary of State for Social Security of the Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security of Portugal, Gabriel Bastos; Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, Heba Hagrass; Head of the International Telecommunications Union Liaison Office to the United Nations in New York, Ursula Wynhoven; Managing Director of Centric Digital Ghana, Aida Opoku-Mensah; and Associate Professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering and Director of the Center for Responsible AI at New York University, Julia Stoyanovich. During the ensuing interactive discussion, statements were made by the representatives of Türkiye, Switzerland, Poland, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Cuba, as well as by the observer for Mexico. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following non‑governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: Global Fund for Widows and Institute for Planetary Synthesis. The panellists responded to the questions posed and comments made by the representatives and observer.

Chapter IV

Programme questions and other matters

34. The Commission considered sub-items 4 (a) and (b) at its 10th meeting, on 12 February 2024. It had before it the note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development ([E/CN.5/2024/5](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/5)).

 A. Proposed programme plan for 2025

35. At the 10th meeting, on 12 February, the Officer-in-Charge and Acting Director of the Division for Inclusive Social Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs made a statement.

 B. United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

36. At the 10th meeting, on 12 February, the Director of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development made a statement.

Action taken by the Commission

Nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

37. At its 10th meeting, on 12 February, with reference to [E/CN.5/2024/5](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/5), the Commission decided to nominate Godwin Murunga for an additional two-year term beginning on the date of confirmation by the Economic and Social Council and expiring on 30 June 2026 (see chap. I.C, decision 62/101).

38. At the same meeting, with further reference to [E/CN.5/2024/5](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/5), the Commission decided to nominate Leila Patel, Diego Sánchez-Ancochea, Dzodzi Tsikata and Timo Voipio to serve on the Board of the Institute for a four-year term beginning on the date of confirmation by the Economic and Social Council and expiring on 30 June 2028 (see chap. I.C, decision 62/101).

Chapter V

Provisional agenda for the sixty-third session of the Commission

39. The Commission considered item 5 of its agenda at its 12th meeting, on 14 February 2024. It had before it the provisional agenda of and documentation for the sixty-third session of the Commission ([E/CN.5/2024/L.1](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/L.1)).

40. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda of and documentation for its sixty-third session (see chap. I. B, draft decision II).

Chapter VI

Adoption of the report of the Commission on its sixty-second session

41. At the 12th meeting, on 14 February 2024, the Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur of the Commission, Stéphanie Toschi (Luxembourg), introduced the draft report of the Commission on its sixty-second session as contained in document [E/CN.5/2024/L.2](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/L.2).

42. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft report and entrusted the Rapporteur, in consultation with the Secretariat, with its finalization.

Chapter VII

Organization of the session

 A. Opening and duration of the session

43. The Commission for Social Development held its sixty-second session at Headquarters on 15 February 2023 and from 5 to 14 February 2024. The Commission held 12 meetings (1st to 12th).

44. At the 2nd meeting, on 5 February, the Chair (India) made an opening statement.

45. At the same meeting, the President of the General Assembly, the Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council (Canada) and the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs addressed the Commission.

46. Statements were also made by representatives of civil society and youth (pre‑recorded).

 B. Attendance

47. The session was attended by representatives of 42 States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations also attended. The list of participants is contained in document [E/CN.5/2024/INF/1](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/INF/1).

 C. Election of officers

48. In its decision 2002/210, the Economic and Social Council decided that, immediately following the closure of a regular session, the Commission would hold the first meeting of its subsequent regular session for the sole purpose of electing the new Chair and other members of the Bureau.

49. At its 1st meeting, on 15 February 2023, the Commission elected, by acclamation, Ruchira Kamboj (India) as Chair, and Carla María Carlson (Dominican Republic), Jon Ivanovski (North Macedonia) and Thomas Lammar (Luxembourg) as Vice-Chairs of the Commission for its sixty-second session.

50. At its 2nd meeting, on 5 February 2024, the Commission elected, by acclamation, Joselyne Kwishaka (Burundi) and Stéphanie Toschi (Luxembourg)[[39]](#footnote-39) as Vice-Chairs of the sixty-second session.

51. At the same meeting, the Commission designated Stéphanie Toschi as Rapporteur.

52. The Bureau was thus composed as follows:

*Chair*:

 Ruchira Kamboj (India)

*Vice-Chairs*:

 Carla María Carlson (Dominican Republic)

 Jon Ivanovski (North Macedonia)

 Joselyne Kwishaka (Burundi)

 Stéphanie Toschi (Luxembourg) (Rapporteur)

 D. Agenda and organization of work

53. At its 2nd meeting, on 5 February, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda contained in document [E/CN.5/2024/1](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/1). The agenda read as follows:

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly:

(a) Priority theme: fostering social development and social justice through social policies to accelerate progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve the overarching goal of poverty eradication;

(b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:

(i) 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;

(ii) World Programme of Action for Youth;

(iii) Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;

(iv) Family issues, policies and programmes;

(c) Emerging issues: the influence of digital transformation on inclusive growth and development: a path to realizing social justice.

4. Programme questions and other matters:

(a) Proposed programme plan for 2025;

(b) United Nations Research Institute for Social Development.

5. Provisional agenda for the sixty-third session of the Commission.

6. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its sixty-second session.

54. At the 2nd meeting, the Commission approved the proposed modalities and the organization of work contained in [E/CN.5/2024/1](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/1), as orally revised.

55. Also at the 2nd meeting, upon the proposal of the Chair (India), the Commission decided, without setting a precedent for future sessions of the Commission for Social Development, that Member States, observer States and intergovernmental organizations, as well as specialized agencies, related organizations and civil society organizations, might submit a pre-recorded statement, which would be played in the conference room during the general discussion of the Commission for Social Development at its sixty-second session.

 E. Documentation

56. The list of documents before the Commission at its sixty-second session is contained in the annex to the present report.

Annex

List of documents before the Commission for Social Development at its sixty-second session

| *Symbol* | *Agenda item* | *Title/description* |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| [E/CN.5/2024/1](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/1) | 2 | Provisional annotated agenda and proposed organization of work |
| [E/CN.5/2024/2](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/2) | 3 | Report of the Secretary-General on the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development |
| [E/CN.5/2024/3](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/3) and Corr.1 | 3 (a) | Report of the Secretary-General on fostering social development and social justice through social policies to accelerate progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve the overarching goal of poverty eradication |
| [A/79/61-E/2024/48](https://undocs.org/en/A/79/61) | 3 (b) (iv) | Report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for and observance of the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family |
| [E/CN.5/2024/4](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/4) | 3 (c)  | Note by the Secretariat on the influence of digital transformation on inclusive growth and development: a path to realizing social justice |
| [E/CN.5/2024/5](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/5) | 4 (b)  | Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development |
| [E/CN.5/2024/L.1](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/L.1) | 5 | Provisional agenda of and documentation for the sixty-third session of the Commission |
| [E/CN.5/2024/L.2](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/L.2) | 6 | Draft report of the Commission on its sixty-second session |
| [E/CN.5/2024/L.3](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/L.3) | 2 | Draft decision on the priority theme of the sixty-third session of the Commission for Social Development |
| [E/CN.5/2024/L.4](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/L.4) | 3 (a)  | Draft resolution on fostering social development and social justice through social policies to accelerate progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve the overarching goal of poverty eradication |
| [E/CN.5/2024/L.5](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/L.5) | 3 | Draft resolution on promoting care and support systems for social development |
| [E/CN.5/2024/L.6](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/L.6) | 3  | Draft resolution on the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development  |
| [E/CN.5/2024/NGO/1](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/NGO/1)–70*a*  | 3 (a)  | Statements submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council |

 *a* Available at: <https://social.desa.un.org/csocd/62nd>.

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1. *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. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. General Assembly resolution [S-24/2](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/S-24/2), annex. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. *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. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. *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. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. *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. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53A* ([A/78/53/Add.1](https://undocs.org/en/A/78/53/Add.1)), chap. III, sect. A. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. General Assembly resolution [70/1](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/70/1). [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. *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. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. General Assembly resolution [S-24/2](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/S-24/2), annex. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. General Assembly resolution [70/1](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/70/1). [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. General Assembly resolution [69/313](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/69/313), annex. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. General Assembly resolution [57/2](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/57/2). [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. General Assembly resolution [60/1](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/60/1), para. 68. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. General Assembly resolution [63/1](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/63/1). [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. [A/57/304](https://undocs.org/en/A/57/304), annex. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. General Assembly resolution [78/3](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/78/3), annex. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. General Assembly resolution [78/4](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/78/4), annex. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. General Assembly resolution [78/5](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/78/5), annex. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. See *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; and General Assembly resolution [63/239](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/63/239), annex, and resolution [69/313](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/69/313), annex. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1, resolution 58.3, annex. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. General Assembly resolution [75/284](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/75/284), annex. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. *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. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. General Assembly resolution [S-24/2](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/S-24/2), annex. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
25. General Assembly resolution [78/3](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/78/3), annex, resolution [78/4](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/78/4), annex, and resolution [78/5](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/78/5), annex. [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
26. See General Assembly resolution [2200 A (XXI)](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/2200%28XXI%29), annex. [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
27. [A/73/918](https://undocs.org/en/A/73/918), annex. [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
28. [A/57/304](https://undocs.org/en/A/57/304), annex. [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
29. [A/HRC/21/39](https://undocs.org/en/A/HRC/21/39). [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
30. See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* ([A/67/53/Add.1](https://undocs.org/en/A/67/53/Add.1)), chap. II. [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
31. [A/75/982](https://undocs.org/en/A/75/982). [↑](#footnote-ref-31)
32. [E/CN.5/2024/3](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/3) and [E/CN.5/2024/3/Corr.1](https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.5/2024/3/Corr.1). [↑](#footnote-ref-32)
33. General Assembly resolution [70/1](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/70/1). [↑](#footnote-ref-33)
34. General Assembly resolution [69/313](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/69/313), annex. [↑](#footnote-ref-34)
35. General Assembly resolution [69/283](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/69/283), annex II. [↑](#footnote-ref-35)
36. General Assembly resolution [71/256](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/71/256), annex. [↑](#footnote-ref-36)
37. *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2024, Supplement No. 6* ([E/2024/26](https://undocs.org/en/E/2024/26)). [↑](#footnote-ref-37)
38. General Assembly resolution [68/3](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/68/3). [↑](#footnote-ref-38)
39. Stéphanie Toschi (Luxembourg) was elected at the 2nd meeting, on 5 February 2024, to fill the remaining term of office of Thomas Lammar (Luxembourg), whose tour of duty in New York had ended in July 2023, after his having been elected by the Commission as Vice-Chair of the sixty-second session at its 1st meeting, on 15 February 2023. [↑](#footnote-ref-39)