

**Human Rights Council****Forty-third session**

24 February–13 March and 15–23 June 2020

Agenda item 3

**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development****Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council
on 22 June 2020****43/21. Promoting mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of human rights***The Human Rights Council,**Guided by the Charter of the United Nations,**Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, and recalling all relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,*Recalling* previous resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on international cooperation in the field of human rights,*Reaffirming* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing, and that all human rights must be treated in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,*Reaffirming also* that all human rights derive from the dignity and worth inherent in the human person and that the human person is the central subject of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and consequently should be the principal beneficiary and should participate actively in the realization of these rights and freedoms,*Reaffirming further* that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, all States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, have the duty to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms,*Acknowledging* that the approach of multilateralism and diplomacy could reinforce the advancement of the three pillars of the United Nations, namely, sustainable development, peace and security and human rights, which are interlinked and mutually reinforcing, while observing respective mandates and the Charter, and recognizing the urgent need to promote and strengthen multilateralism,*Acknowledging also* the important role that mutually beneficial cooperation among all relevant stakeholders can play in promoting and protecting all human rights in an increasingly interrelated world,

Emphasizing the responsibility of all States, in conformity with the Charter, to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind,

Recognizing the importance of ensuring universality, objectivity and non-selectivity in the consideration of human rights issues, and the elimination of double standards and politicization,

Reaffirming that each State has the inalienable right to choose freely and develop, in accordance with the sovereign will of its people, its own political, social, economic and cultural systems, without interference from any other State or non-State actor, in strict conformity with the Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other relevant international instruments,

Reaffirming also that the work of the Human Rights Council shall be guided by the principles of universality, impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity, constructive international dialogue and cooperation, with a view to enhancing the promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development,

Emphasizing the need for a cooperative and constructive approach on the part of all stakeholders to resolving human rights issues in international forums, to contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recognizing the importance of presenting best practices, positive outcomes and experience in the field of human rights, in particular its role in promoting mutual learning and mutual understanding, enhancing dialogue and assisting the promotion of technical cooperation among States,

Considering that international cooperation in the field of human rights, in conformity with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter and international law and based on the principles of cooperation and genuine dialogue, makes an effective and practical contribution to preventing violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms and strengthening the capacity of States to comply with their human rights obligations for the benefit of all human beings,

Emphasizing that genuine dialogue and cooperation in the field of human rights should be constructive and based on universality, indivisibility, non-selectivity, non-politicization, equality and mutual respect, with the aim of promoting mutual understanding, expanding common ground and strengthening constructive cooperation, including through capacity-building and technical cooperation,

Recognizing the importance of technical assistance and capacity-building provided in consultation with, and with the consent of, the States concerned in promoting mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of human rights,

Reiterating the need to further enhance the role of the Human Rights Council in promoting technical assistance and capacity-building, including by exploring the avenues for States to introduce their achievements and good practices in the field of human rights, to share concrete experiences and expertise in promoting and protecting human rights, and to voluntarily pledge their contributions and commitments,

Recognizing the role of the universal periodic review in, inter alia, promoting the universality, interdependence, indivisibility and interrelatedness of all human rights, establishing a cooperative mechanism based on objective and reliable information and on interactive dialogue, and ensuring universal coverage and equal treatment of all States in contributing to the promotion and protection of human rights and mutually beneficial cooperation,

Recognizing also that dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations in the field of human rights could contribute greatly to the enhancement of international cooperation in this field,

Recognizing further the importance of fostering international relations based on mutual respect, fairness, justice and mutually beneficial cooperation, and of building a community of shared future for human beings in which human rights are enjoyed by all,

1. *Calls upon* all States to uphold multilateralism and to work together to promote mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of human rights, and encourages other stakeholders, including international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations, to contribute actively to this endeavour;

2. *Stresses* the critical role of the Human Rights Council as the principal intergovernmental body dealing with human rights within the United Nations system, and emphasizes the need for the Council to fulfil its mandate with a strong commitment to multilateralism by implementing the principles of universality, impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity, constructive international dialogue and cooperation, with a view to enhancing the promotion and protection of all human rights;

3. *Calls upon* all States and other stakeholders to undertake constructive and genuine dialogue and cooperation in the field of human rights, based on universality, impartiality, objectivity, indivisibility, non-selectivity, non-politicization, equality and mutual respect, with the aim of promoting mutual understanding, expanding common ground, narrowing differences and strengthening constructive cooperation;

4. *Reiterates* the important role of technical assistance and capacity-building in promoting and protecting human rights, calls upon States to strengthen human rights technical assistance and capacity-building through mutually beneficial cooperation, upon the request of and in accordance with the priorities set by the States concerned, and welcomes in this regard North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation;

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee on the role of technical assistance and capacity-building in fostering mutually beneficial cooperation in promoting and protecting human rights;¹

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of the universal periodic review as a mechanism based on cooperation and constructive dialogue with the objective of, inter alia, improving the situation of human rights on the ground and promoting the fulfilment of the human rights obligations and commitments undertaken by States, and calls upon all States and relevant stakeholders to participate constructively in it;

7. *Invites* relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutually beneficial cooperation in promoting and protecting all human rights;

8. *Decides* to convene at its forty-sixth session a meeting under item 3 of its agenda, with a duration of two hours, to be presided over by the President of the Human Rights Council, on the theme of the role of poverty alleviation in promoting and protecting human rights, with the participation of senior officials from States to share information on good practices and experience in their countries with regard to particular aspects of the promotion and protection of human rights, and encourages States to take this opportunity to facilitate relevant technical cooperation;

9. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide for the above-mentioned meeting all necessary resources for the services and facilities, and to prepare a summary report on the meeting and to submit it to the Human Rights Council at its forty-ninth session;

10. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

*45th meeting
22 June 2020*

[Adopted by a recorded vote of 23 to 16, with 8 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Eritrea, Indonesia, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan,

¹ A/HRC/43/31.

Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay, Venezuela
(Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, India, Italy, Japan,
Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain,
Ukraine

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Armenia, Bahamas, Chile, Democratic Republic of the Congo,
Fiji, Libya, Peru]
