

**Human Rights Council****Fifty-fourth session**

11 September–13 October 2023

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 12 October 2023****54/17. Contribution of the implementation of the objectives of the International  
Year of the Family and its follow-up processes in the promotion and  
protection of human rights***The Human Rights Council,**Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,**Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Declaration on the Right to Development, and recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and other relevant human rights instruments,*Recalling* all General Assembly resolutions concerning the proclamation of, preparations for, and observance and commemoration of the International Year of the Family, including the most recent resolution of the Assembly, 77/191 of 15 December 2022,*Reaffirming* that, in accordance with article 16 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State,*Recognizing* that the preparations for and observance of the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, in 2024, provide a useful opportunity to continue to raise awareness of the objectives of the International Year of increasing cooperation on family issues at all levels and undertaking concerted action to strengthen family-oriented policies and programmes that promote and protect the human rights of all family members, as part of an integrated and comprehensive approach to development,*Recognizing also* that the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes, especially those relating to family-oriented policies in the areas of poverty, work-family balance and intergenerational issues, with attention given to the rights and responsibilities of all family members, can contribute to ending poverty, ending hunger, ensuring a healthy life and promoting well-being for all at all ages, promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all, ensuring better education outcomes for children, including early childhood development and education, enabling access to employment opportunities and decent work for parents and caregivers, ensuring the enjoyment of cultural rights and

other economic and social rights, achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, eliminating all forms of violence, in particular against women and girls, and supporting the overall quality of life of families, including those in vulnerable situations, so that family members can fully enjoy human rights and realize their full potential as part of an integrated and comprehensive approach to development,

*Reaffirming* that States have the primary responsibility to promote, protect and fulfil the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all family members, consistent with their obligations under international human rights law,

*Recognizing* that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has provided a critical recognition of the need and opportunity to build more effective, inclusive and resilient systems to protect and support families, in particular those in vulnerable situations,

*Acknowledging* that the preparations for the observance of the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, in 2024, should offer an opportunity to focus on megatrends, such as technological change, urbanization, migration, demographic change and climate change and their impact on the functioning and well-being of the family,

1. *Takes note* of the relevant reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes;

2. *Encourages* States to ensure the meaningful and inclusive participation of all relevant stakeholders, including United Nations entities, civil society, academic institutions and the private sector, in the development and implementation of relevant family-oriented policies and programmes responding to the needs and expectations of all families;

3. *Recognizes* the important role of civil society, including research institutes, academia, family organizations and associations, the private sector and the media, in advocacy, promotion, research and policymaking and, as appropriate, evaluation of family policy development and capacity-building;

4. *Invites* States, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the treaty bodies, relevant special procedure mandate holders and other relevant international and regional human rights mechanisms, within their respective mandates and competence, to consider mainstreaming the promotion of family-oriented policies that promote and protect the human rights of all family members as a cross-cutting issue in national development plans and programmes;

5. *Decides* to convene, at its fifty-seventh session, a panel discussion, accessible to persons with disabilities, on the implementation of States' obligations under relevant provisions of international human rights law on the role of the family in supporting the protection and promotion of human rights of its members, to discuss challenges and best practices in this regard, and requests the High Commissioner to prepare a summary report on the discussion, and an Easy Read version thereof, and to submit it to the Human Rights Council at its fifty-eighth session;

6. *Also decides* to organize an expert workshop, accessible to persons with disabilities, before its fifty-ninth session, on the role of the family and family-oriented approaches, policies and programmes in the promotion and protection of human rights and in sustainable development, to highlight best practices from different regions, with the participation of representatives from States, United Nations entities and civil society, and requests the High Commissioner to prepare a summary report on the discussions held at the workshop, and an Easy Read version thereof, and to submit it to the Human Rights Council at its sixtieth session;

7. *Further decides* to remain seized of the matter.

*47th meeting  
12 October 2023*

[Adopted without a vote.]