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**Seventy-seventh session**

Agenda item 131

**Sexual exploitation and abuse: implementing a zero-tolerance policy****Resolution adopted by the General Assembly  
on 7 November 2022***[without reference to a Main Committee (A/77/L.8)]***77/8. World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Violence***The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [53/199](#) of 15 December 1998 and [61/185](#) of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years and Economic and Social Council resolution [1980/67](#) of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries,

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>1</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>2</sup> and its Optional Protocols,<sup>3</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>4</sup> the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>5</sup> and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>6</sup> and recalling all other relevant international treaties,

*Recalling* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>7</sup> places the dignity of children and their right to live free from violence as a priority on the international development agenda through the implementation of the range of goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda relevant to ending exploitation, abuse, trafficking, torture and all forms of violence against children, as well as eliminating all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation, which place children at risk of experiencing child sexual exploitation, abuse and violence,

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<sup>1</sup> Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vols. 2171, 2173 and 2983, No. 27531.

<sup>4</sup> See resolution [2200 A \(XXI\)](#), annex.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>6</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

<sup>7</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).



*Expressing grave concern* that children, especially girls, are at a greater risk of experiencing forced sex and sexual exploitation, abuse and violence, including both online and offline, in particular during armed conflicts, that, because of the shame, stigma and fear associated with their experiences, many victims and survivors never disclose and/or seek justice, rehabilitation or support, and that many victims and survivors of child abuse experience lifelong consequences that affect their physical and mental health and well-being,

*Affirming* the need to eliminate and prevent all forms of child sexual exploitation, abuse and violence and to promote the dignity and rights, including mental and physical health and healing, of those who experience child sexual exploitation, abuse and violence,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 18 November of each year as the World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Violence;

2. *Invites* all Member States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations, world leaders, faith actors, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and the private sector, and other relevant stakeholders to commemorate the World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Violence each year in a manner that each considers most appropriate, including through commitments to ensure quality education and to raise public awareness of those affected by child sexual abuse and the need to prevent and eliminate child sexual exploitation, abuse and violence, including online and offline, and the imperative to hold perpetrators to account, ensure the access of survivors and victims to justice and remedies, as well as facilitate open discussion on the need to prevent and eliminate their stigmatization, promote their healing, affirm their dignity and protect their rights;

3. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders, for appropriate observance.

*30th plenary meeting  
7 November 2022*