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Agenda item 23 (a)

Operational activities for development: operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Francesca Cassar (Malta)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a general discussion on agenda item 23 (see [A/77/448](#), para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 22nd meeting, on 21 November 2022. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary record.¹

II. Consideration of draft resolutions [A/C.2/77/L.37](#) and [A/C.2/77/L.45](#)

2. At the 21st meeting, on 10 November, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Operational activities for development of the United Nations system" ([A/C.2/77/L.37](#)).

3. At its 22nd meeting, on 21 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Operational activities for development of the United Nations system" ([A/C.2/77/L.45](#)), submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee, Francesca Cassar (Malta), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution [A/C.2/77/L.37](#).

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution [A/C.2/77/L.45](#) had no programme budget implications.

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbols [A/77/448](#), [A/77/448/Add.1](#) and [A/77/448/Add.2](#).

¹ See [A/C.2/77/SR.22](#).



5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.2/77/L.45](#) (see para. 8).
6. Also at the 22nd meeting, following the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America and the European Union (also on behalf of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Ukraine).
7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution [A/C.2/77/L.45](#), draft resolution [A/C.2/77/L.37](#) was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution [75/233](#) of 21 December 2020 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including its general guidelines,

Reaffirming also its resolution [72/279](#) of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and its resolutions [73/248](#) of 20 December 2018, [74/238](#) of 19 December 2019 and [76/220](#) of 17 December 2021 on operational activities for development of the United Nations system, as well as its resolution [76/4](#) of 28 October 2021 on the review of the functioning of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, including its funding arrangement,

Reaffirming further its resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, 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 its resolution [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, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Reaffirming also the Paris Agreement,¹ and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change² that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming further the importance of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide strategic policy orientations and operational modalities for the

¹ Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations development system,

Noting with great concern the severe negative impact on human health, safety and well-being caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, as well as the severe disruption to societies and economies and the devastating impact on lives and livelihoods, and that the poorest and most vulnerable are the hardest hit by the pandemic, reaffirming the ambition to get back on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by designing and implementing sustainable and inclusive recovery strategies to accelerate progress towards the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to help to reduce the risk of and build resilience to future shocks, crises and pandemics, including by strengthening health systems and achieving universal health coverage, and recognizing that equitable and timely access for all to safe, quality, effective and affordable COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics are an essential part of a global response based on unity, solidarity, renewed multilateral cooperation and the principle of leaving no one behind,

Recognizing the essential role of the United Nations as the body that can effectively bring together a global response to control and contain the spread of COVID-19 and address the critical interlinkages between health, trade, finance and economic and social development, and acknowledging that the disease continues to negatively impact endeavours aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030,

Recognizing that climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing conflicts and their respective negative impacts are creating additional challenges relating to eradication of poverty, food security, energy security and cost of living, and that developing countries are disproportionately affected by these challenges,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution [75/233](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, 2022;³

2. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General on the repositioning of the United Nations development system and the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, and acknowledges the progress achieved thus far in advancing all reform mandates contained in General Assembly resolutions [71/243](#) of 21 December 2016, [72/279](#), [75/233](#) and [76/4](#) and continues to call for their full implementation;

3. *Recalls and reiterates* the requests made in Economic and Social Council resolution [2022/25](#) of 22 July 2022 on progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution [75/233](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, as well as those previously made in resolutions Council resolutions [2019/15](#) of 8 July 2019 and [2020/23](#) of 22 July 2020 on progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution [71/243](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

4. *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development⁴ to leave no one behind, commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first, and calls upon the entities of the United Nations development system, within their respective mandates and resources, to assist States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

³ [A/77/69-E/2022/47](#) and [A/77/69/Add.1-E/2022/47/Add.1](#).

⁴ Resolution [70/1](#).

5. *Continues* to reemphasize that adequate, predictable and sustainable funding of the resident coordinator system is essential to delivering a coherent, effective, efficient and accountable response in accordance with national needs and priorities, and recommits to providing sufficient funding for the resident coordinator system in line with resolution 76/4;

6. *Welcomes* the progress made in the establishment of United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, reaffirms that they are the most important instrument for the planning and implementation of United Nations development activities in each programme country in support of their implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in this regard calls on all entities of the United Nations development system to cooperate and collaborate with and work under the leadership and guidance of the resident coordinators, in accordance with resolution 75/233, to ensure a coordinated and integrated approach to the development and implementation of the Cooperation Frameworks, and further calls on the entities of the United Nations development system to align their development activities for their respective country programmes with the agreed priorities of the Cooperation Frameworks, to facilitate a stronger and more coordinated, efficient, effective and accountable United Nations development system at the country level towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

7. *Reiterates its call* to the entities of the United Nations development system, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, in accordance with resolution 75/233, in particular paragraph 27 and its subparagraphs (a) to (d);

8. *Takes note* of the progress made thus far in the fulfilment of the funding compact commitments by all parties, noting its voluntary nature, welcomes the update on the funding compact and its indicators⁵ and notes that the remaining targets are to be met by 2023, continues to urge the full implementation by Member States and the entities of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group of commitments made in the funding compact, and in this regard looks forward to the assessment of the implementation of the compact to date in the next report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly and operational activities for development segment of the Economic and Social Council, including recommendations for an inclusive dialogue between Member States and the entities of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group on the future of the funding compact;

9. *Welcomes* the strengthened contributions of the resident coordinator system to the results of the United Nations development system and further welcomes the consultative process launched by the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group on the resident coordinator system results framework, takes note of the draft results framework, and looks forward to the convening of further discussions as early as December 2022, and no later than the end of the first quarter of 2023, to facilitate its finalization before the operational activities for development segment of the 2023 session of the Economic and Social Council;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen transparency and accountability by providing, in a timely and publicly available manner, within existing resources and avoiding duplication, briefing notes, informal briefings, documents and reports on progress in the implementation of the mandates contained in General Assembly resolution 75/233, with a view to supporting an inclusive and comprehensive dialogue between Member States and the entities of the United Nations development system, and in this regard looks forward to the discussions at

⁵ See annex 2: funding compact indicators. Available at <https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/2022-Operational-Activities-for-Development-Segment>.

the operational activities for development segment of the 2023 session of the Economic and Social Council;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to present a comprehensive, evidence-based and analytical report to the Economic and Social Council covering all provisions and progress made, lessons learned and challenges in the implementation of the mandates contained in General Assembly resolution [75/233](#), as part of his annual reporting to the Council at the operational activities for development segment during its 2023 session, and to the Assembly at its seventy-eighth session for its further consideration;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled “Operational activities for development”, the sub-item entitled “Operational activities for development of the United Nations system”.
